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A HAND BOOK of VIRGINIA

PUBLISHED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND
IMMIGRATION
COMPILED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF GEO. W. KOENER COMMISSIONER

A LANE BOY

BOY



HIS EXCELLENCY, H. C. STUART, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

The largest exporter in America of beef cattle direct from his own blue-grass pastures

A HANDBOOK OF VIRGINIA

S I X T H E D I T I O N 1915

Published by the Department
of Agriculture and Immigration
of the State of Virginia --:-- --:--



GEO. W. KOINER, Commissioner
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VIRGINIA

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HAND BOOK OF VIRGINIA

THE agricultural progress of Virginia during the past few years has been unprecedented in the history of the State. Better farming can be seen on every hand. This has been brought about by diversification of crops and the great variety that are now being grown in Virginia; by the use of modern labor-saving machinery and the adoption of scientific methods in improvement and cultivation of the soil; by the improvement in breeding of live stock and the growing of more forage and grass crops, and by large increase in orchards and the great development in the trucking fields.

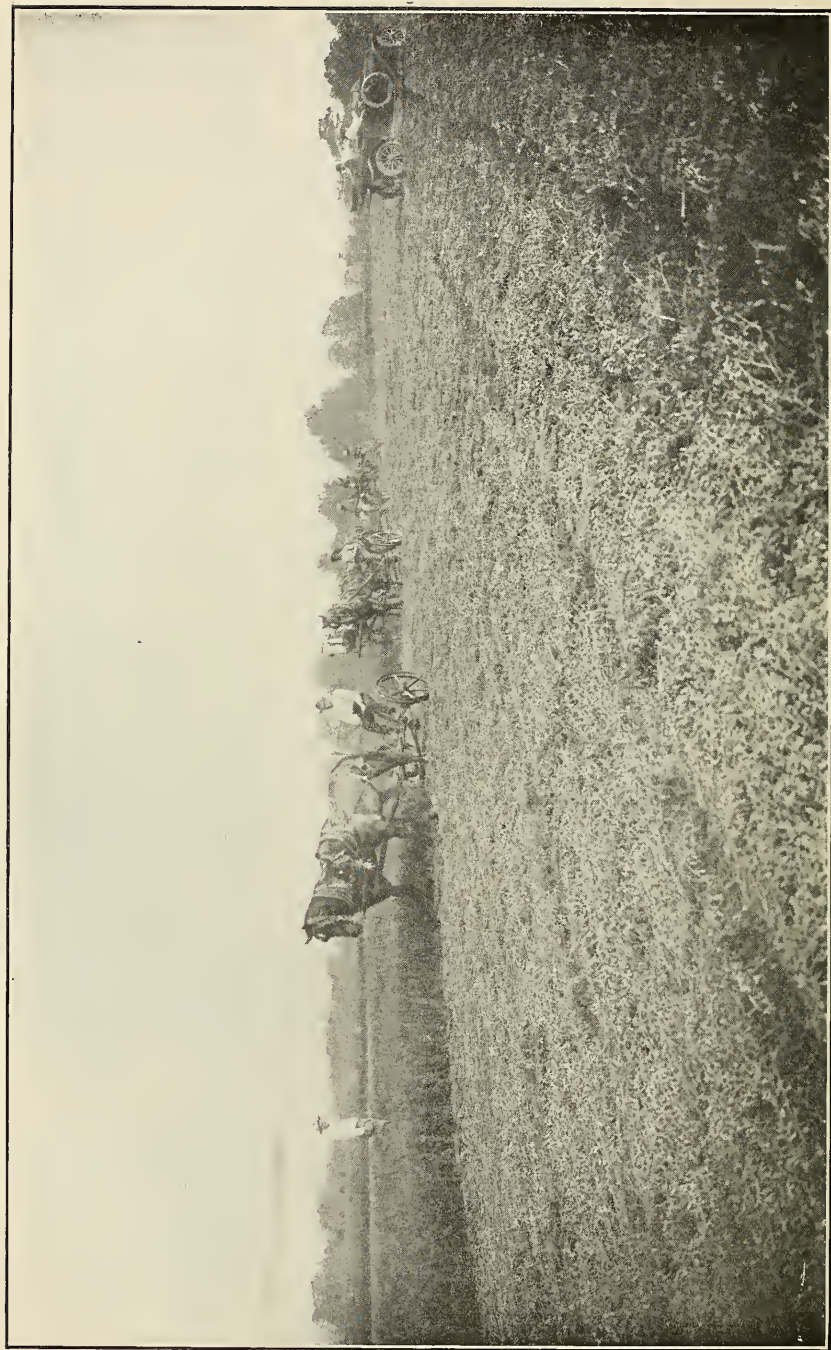
The prospects for the future far surpass the achievements of the past. Few States possess agricultural advantages superior to Virginia. She has every variety of soil, condition and climate incident to the temperate zone. Virginia, with all the majesty of her glorious history, and with all the blood-quickenings influences of her traditions, no longer appeals to sentiment in advancing her claims for recognition. Long since she has taught the world to realize that her worth is based on more substantial things—that in her favored clime the willing worker, whatever his vocation, finds the certain road to prosperity and success.

Nor is Virginia's story of progress told alone by her plantations, her forests, her mines and her sail-flecked waters, for her cities have grown apace with her many agricultural and industrial enterprises. Today they are teeming with life, and their railroads, factories and mammoth manufacturing plants throbbingly demonstrate the progressiveness of the State.

Virginia Hospitality.

In a section where hospitality for centuries has been one of the dominant characteristics of the people, it is not surprising that Virginia's new comers, once settled within her borders, find themselves comfortably established for life. Yet the satisfaction felt in their changed sphere by these strangers is due to something more than the cordial attitude of the native people.

The homeseeker on reaching the Old Dominion discovers an inspiring field for his endeavors. He finds a huge area of land yet



Alfalfa grows luxuriously in Virginia and is one of our most profitable crops.

awaiting cultivation—land which, despite its richness, may be acquired at figures so low as almost to suggest a prodigal disregard of its value. He finds, too, that geographical divisions of the State lead to many lines of agricultural enterprise. Some coming to Virginia from distant lands have prospered most in the raising of cattle, swine and poultry, or through the sale of dairy products; others have rapidly acquired wealth through their orchards or truck farms, while a more conservative element has thriven along the old paths of agriculture with the general crops.

Virginia the Best State to Live In.

No State in the Union offers more attractive inducements or extends a more inviting hand to the homeseeker and investor than Virginia. In climate, diversity of soils, fruits, forests, water supply, mineral deposits and variety of landscape she offers advantages that are unsurpassed.

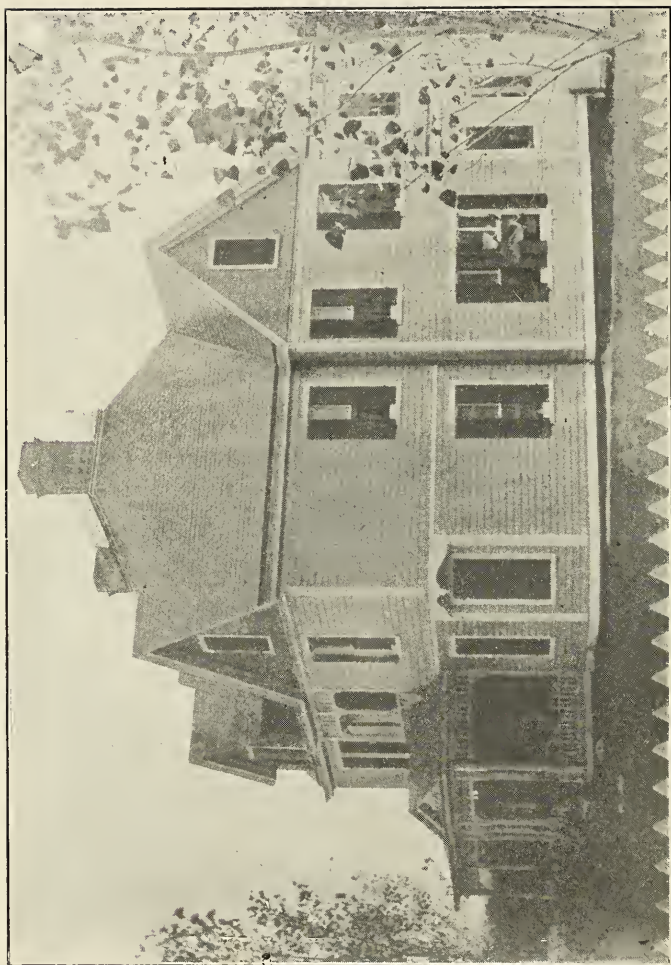
The sun never illumined a more beautiful country, the plowman never turned a kinder soil, and the stranger never shook the hand of a more hospitable people.

Virginia is most centrally located in the Atlantic tier of States, being midway between Maine and Florida. It lies between the extreme of cold and heat, removed alike from the sultry, protracted summers of the more Southern States and the severe winters and devastating storms and cyclones of the north and west; the number of murky, foggy days is very small and conversely the number of sunny days is very large. Along the Blue Ridge mountains there is a belt of country from 1,000 to 2,500 feet above the sea level in which the humidity is exceedingly small, less than in any section east of the Rocky mountains, and the number of bright, sunny days is very large. This region has but little dew at night, owing to its low humidity, and is very beneficial to the people of weak lungs.

Virginia is today the richest State in the south except one, and is growing each year more rapidly in wealth and population. The skies of Virginia are illumined with hope, and her people, conservatively and courageously, are each year building a broader, a richer and a greater Commonwealth.

Parties purchasing farm land in Virginia are requested to send me their names and permanent Virginia address to be put on the regular mailing list of the Department of Agriculture for such bulletins as we issue monthly on practical farm subjects, fertilizer and seed analyses.

G. W. KOINER,
Commissioner.



A modern Virginia country residence.

Virginia As a Home.

The Old Dominion offers greater inducements to the homeseeker than any other State. Her mild climate, pure water and productive soil make her almost a paradise for those who want to enjoy life on the farm and at the same time accumulate a competence. No matter what line of farming you desire to follow here may be found the conditions suited to it. As a live stock country no State surpasses her. For the production of grain crops she has no superior and few equals. Cotton and tobacco are produced very profitably. As to the production of fruit, she is already gaining a worldwide reputation. Some of the largest commercial orchards have produced an annual income of from \$300 to \$500 per acre. This fruit has been produced on lands that a few years ago sold for \$10 to \$20 per acre, and there are yet thousands of acres of land that can be purchased at low figures that will produce as fine fruit as any of the bearing orchards. The fruit grower can find no greater inducements than are found in the "Old Dominion." Why go to the Northwest and purchase high-priced lands, grow fruit and ship it four thousand miles when better fruit can be grown on these cheap lands, with the markets at the door?

Very Cheap Lands.

In the West and Middle West lands have become so high that a poor man cannot buy a burying ground; but here in Virginia lands have not risen proportionately, due to the fact, largely, that the march of civilization has been westward in the past. Ours might properly be called the "overlooked land." Lands can be bought here all the way from \$20 to \$100 per acre, and the production of same will be equal to or greater than it is on lands in other sections costing several times those amounts.

No State can boast of producing so great a variety of farm products. One farmer for several years has had an exhibit at the State Fair of 350 products, all of which was produced on a farm that twenty-five years ago was practically abandoned.

In many sections of the State, where proper care has been exercised in the growing of cover crops, grazing can be practiced all the year. This reduces the cost of raising live stock to the minimum. The winters here are so mild that the ground is scarcely ever covered with snow, and consequently live stock do not require much rough feed or housing.

One line of live stock husbandry that is very profitable here is that of raising hogs. The fact that the food for the hog can be grown on the farm and consumed without harvesting should appeal

to every hog raiser. Here the hog brings in a good return and does all the work hmiself. This is true of but few sections of this country.

Virginia is spending vast sums of money upon her public highways and schools, and this tends to make the State still a better place in which to live.



Highway improvement in Virginia.

Favorable Location



VIRGINIA is one of the Middle Atlantic States of the United States of America, lying midway between Maine on the north and Florida on the south. It is also in the belt of central States across the continent from east to west.

On the south it adjoins North Carolina for 326 miles and Tennessee for 114 miles, making the line of the State from the Atlantic west 440 miles; on the west and northwest, Kentucky for 115 miles and West Virginia (by a very irregular line) for 450 miles, form the boundary. Maryland is northwest and north, separated by the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay for 205 miles from Virginia (to which these waters belong) and by a line of 25 miles across the Eastern Shore. East and southeast it is bordered by the Atlantic for 125 miles. The boundary lines of the State measure about 1,400 miles. On the northwest they are mostly mountain ranges; on the northeast and east, by salt water.

Natural Divisions.

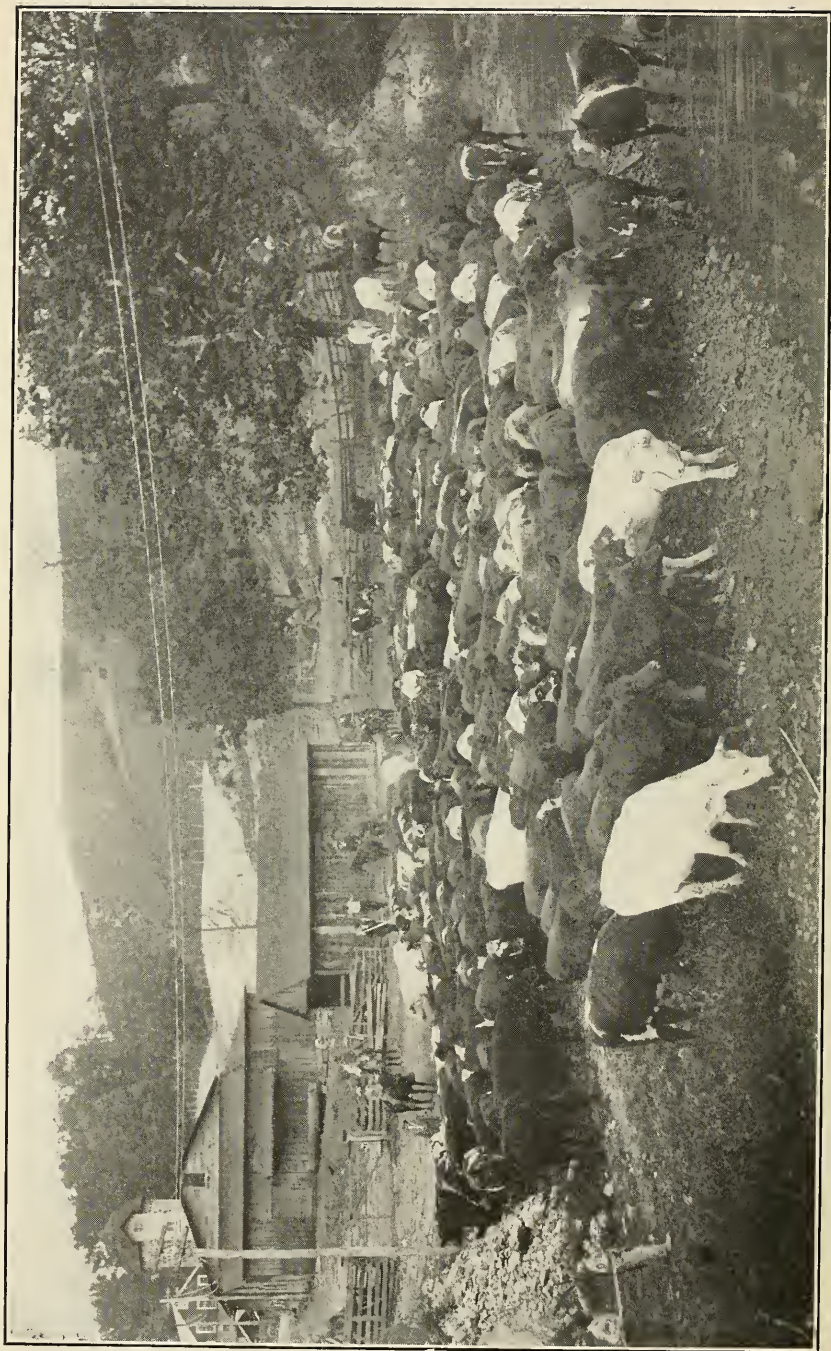
There are five great natural divisions of the territory of Virginia—first, the Tidewater Country, or Tidewater; second, the Middle Country, or Middle Virginia; third, the Piedmont Country, or Piedmont; fourth, the great Valley of Virginia, or the Valley; fifth, the Appalachian Country, or Southwest Virginia.

Tidewater Counties.

Accomac, Northampton, King George, Westmoreland, Northumberland, Richmond, Lancaster, Essex, King and Queen, Middlesex, Mathews, Gloucester, King William, New Kent, James City, Charles City, Prince George, Surry, Isle of Wight, Sussex, York, Warwick, Princess Anne, Elizabeth City, Norfolk, Nansemond, Southampton and Greenville.

Middle Virginia.

Alexandria, Fairfax, Prince William, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Caroline, Louisa, Fluvanna, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, Powhatan, Buckingham, Cumberland, Chesterfield, Amelia, Appomattox,



Virginia is the only State that exports beef cattle direct from the bluegrass pastures. This picture shows a shipment for export from the county of Tazewell, where are some of the oldest bluegrass sods in America.

Nottoway, Dinwiddie, Campbell, Prince Edward, Charlotte, Lunenburg, Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Halifax and Pittsylvania.

Piedmont Virginia.

Loudoun, Fauquier, Culpeper, Madison, Greene, Orange, Albemarle, Nelson, Amherst, Bedford, Franklin, Patrick, Henry and Rappahannock.

The Valley.

Frederick, Clarke, Warren, Shenandoah, Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Rockbridge, Botetourt, Roanoke.

Appalachia or Southwest Virginia.

Highland, Bath, Alleghany, Craig, Montgomery, Floyd, Carroll, Grayson, Pulaski, Wythe, Giles, Bland, Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Russell, Scott, Buchanan, Wise, Lee and Dickenson.

Tidewater Virginia.

Tidewater Virginia, comprising that section of the State lying mainly east of a line drawn north and south through her capital city, Richmond, is esteemed by its residents—and by many of its non-residents also—as the garden spot, not only of Virginia, but of the entire country as well.

Historically, they go back to the days of John Smith, of Pocahontas and of the cavaliers; to Jamestown, where English civilization was first permanently planted in America, and to Williamsburg; to her House of Burgesses, where the first faint cry of liberty and equality was heard within her borders; to those immortals, Washington, Jefferson and Henry.

This section is divided by the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, and the large tidal rivers that flow into that great estuary, into nine principal and a large number of secondary peninsulas. This is mainly an alluvial country, a portion of the tertiary Atlantic tidewater plain, and its surface, composed of sands and clays, is thrown into low, flat ridges, forming the watershed of the peninsulas, succeeded by terraces and plains down to the water's edge, where they meet the swamps and salt marshes that always accompany well-developed, land-locked, tidal waters. This is the clay, marl and sand region.

The natural resources of this section are unsurpassed. Her waters abound with fish, oysters, clams and crabs. Upon these waters and in her marshes millions of water fowl and wild birds feed and have their nesting places.

Winter and summer resorts of both health and pleasure are

scattered along her surf-bound shores, where thousands of prosperous people throng every season for health and pleasure or profit.

From her forests millions of feet of lumber are cut and marketed annually. Millions are still standing, awaiting the stroke of the woodman's axe.

This is the greatest trucking section in the world. Upon her fields may be seen corn, wheat, alfalfa, clover, grass of splendid quality.

With more than three thousand square miles of salt water bottom, of which four thousand acres are set aside for oyster planting purposes and some 200,000 as a natural reserve, we can fairly claim this to be the greatest oyster section in the world.

The Chesapeake Bay and her many estuaries, which bear annually \$125,000,000 of foreign commerce, produces annually about \$15,000,000 of oysters, crabs and fish, in the gathering of which about \$4,000,000 are invested. The county of Accomac alone produces 75 per cent. of the soft shell crabs consumed in the United States.

Middle Virginia.

This section is a great, moderately undulating plain, from 25 to 100 miles wide, rising to the northwest from an elevation of 150 feet above tide at the rock rim of its eastern margin, to from 300 to 500 along its northwestern. The principal streams, as a rule, cross it at right angles; so it is a succession of ridges and valleys running southeast and northwest, the valleys often narrow and deep, but the ridges generally not very prominent.

The middle country extends westward from the "head of the tide" to the foot of the low, broken ranges that extend across the State southwest from the Potomac, near the northern corner of Fairfax to the North Carolina line, near the southwest corner of Pittsylvania, coming to the eastern line of the Appalachian system, and that may with propriety be called the Atlantic coast range.

It is considered one of the finest general farming sections in the State. Tobacco, wheat, corn, oats, grass and peanuts are its chief products. It is also considered by experts to be especially adapted to dairy farming. Its railroad facilities, nearness to the markets and the responsiveness of its soil make it an ideal home for the farmer. Its natural water power and factory sites are unsurpassed; splendid schools and churches, road building and improved methods of farming are making this one of the greatest sections of the State. No other portion of the State has shown more rapid progress than Middle Virginia in the last few years.

Piedmont Virginia.

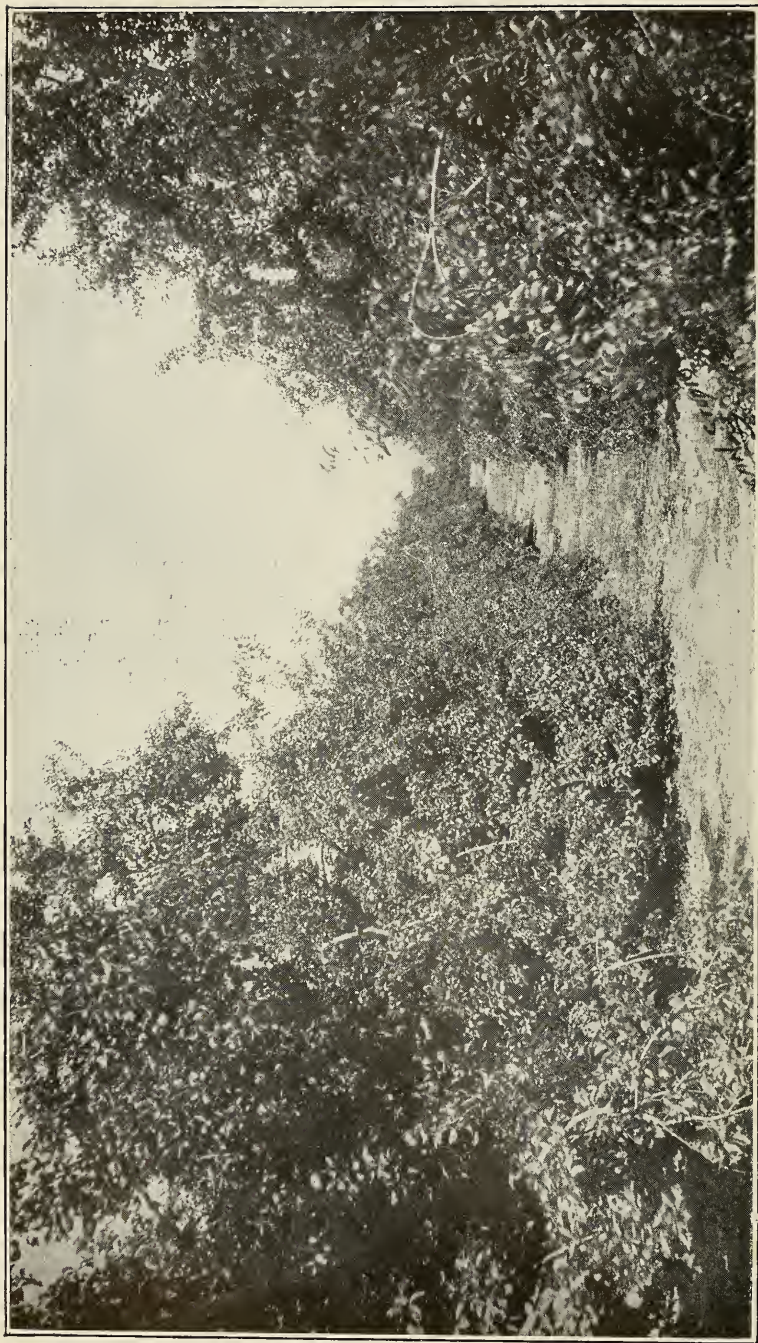
This section is the long belt of country stretching for 244 miles from the banks of the Potomac and the Maryland line southwest, along the eastern base of the Blue Ridge mountains, and between them and the coast range to the banks of the Dan at the North Carolina line; it varies in width from 20 to 30 miles, averaging about 25; its approximate area is 6,680 square miles.

This Piedmont country is the fifth step of the great stairway ascending to the west. Its eastern edge along Middle Virginia is from 300 to 500 feet above the sea; then come the broken ranges of the coast mountains, rising as detached or connected knobs in lines or groups from 100 to 600 feet higher. These are succeeded by the numberless valleys of all imaginable forms—some long, straight and wide, others narrow and widening, others again oval and almost enclosed, locally known as “coves,” that extend across to and far into the Blue Ridge, the spurs of which often reach out southwardly for miles, ramifying in all directions. Portions of the Piedmont form widely-extended plains. The land west of the coast ranges is generally from 300 to 500 feet above the sea, and rises to the west until, at the foot of the Blue Ridge, it attains an elevation of from 600 to 1,200 feet.

Numerous streams have their origin in the heads of the gorges on the Blue Ridge, and most of them flow across the Piedmont to the southwest, uniting and forming some one of the well-known rivers that cross Middle, and even Tidewater, Virginia, like the Roanoke or Staunton and the James. Some of these rivers break through the Blue Ridge from the valley, making water-gaps in that formidable mountain barrier, as the Potomac, the James and the Roanoke; but they all follow the rule above given in their way across this section. This is a genuine “Piedmont” country, surpassing in beauty of scenery and choice of prospect, so that it has always been a favorite section with men of refinement in which to fix their homes.

It has an average rainfall of 45 inches, and never suffers from a consuming drought, such as they have in some parts of the west. The climate in summer is tempered by mountain breezes, and in winter it enjoys the protection of the Blue Ridge from the blizzards of the north and west. Shown by the government statistics to be the most healthful belt in the United States. One of the arguments Thomas Jefferson used for locating the University of Virginia in this section was the pre-eminent healthfulness of the climate.

The soil is of great natural fertility and is generally under-



This is the way an Apple Orchard responds to good cultivation and spraying; good profits will follow good attention to the orchard. A most promising young Virginia Apple Orchard.



Scene on the farm of Mr. Judy, who came to Virginia from Ohio several years ago, and is now one of our largest Alfalfa growers.

laid with red clay, which carries enough free lime and potash for ordinary agricultural use. The mineral wealth of this section has been only partly developed. There are deposits of iron, manganese, copper, zinc, phosphate, potter's clay, marble and soapstone. The water powers of this section are of great value, but are still undeveloped. All of the rivers that flow from the Blue Ridge are fed by never-failing streams, and their fall is rapid. There are some flourishing manufactories. The largest and most successful boot and shoe factories in the United States, with one exception, are located in Lynchburg, and the best woolen mills—"all wool, and a yard wide"—are situated at Charlottesville. The finest-flavored apples in the world are grown in this section. Experts the world over recognize this fact. It is not simply that the Albemarle Pippin was Queen Victoria's favorite of all apples that has made it the most famous apple in the world. The high quality which gained the flavor of the good queen has kept it in the front ranks beyond all competitors. The pasture fields of this section afford fine grazing for cattle and sheep.

The Valley of Virginia.

Washington, in his letter to Sir John Sinclair, written 1796, said of this beautiful country: "In soil, climate and productions will be considered, if not so already, the garden-spot of America." Its natural Blue Grass land, the home of the stock raiser and dairyman; its heavy clay land, fat in fertilizing ingredients, always repaying the labor spent on them in crops of corn and wheat; its splendid soil for fruit growing; its nearness to the big markets, have made this section famous. The Valley is said by experts from the Agricultural Department in Washington to contain a large area of apple land, the equal of any in the world. Many parts of this Valley, especially Augusta and Frederick counties, are becoming a vast orchard. Frederick and Augusta counties each produced last fall about 250,000 barrels.

Harrisonburg is perhaps the greatest horse market in the State, and is making wonderful progress and growth. The Valley has a homogenous white population, industrious, honest and intelligent, and is entering upon a career of prosperity the equal of any section in the State.

Lexington is the educational center of the Valley. The Virginia Military Institute and the Washington and Lee University are within her borders. No section has superior social and educational advantages.

Appalachia or Southwest Virginia.

Just west of the great Valley of Virginia lies a mountainous section of country, traversed its whole length by the Appalachian system of mountains, known as Appalachia or Southwest Virginia. In altitude it varies from 1,000 to 3,000 feet above the sea level and presents a great variety of soils. Appalachia is an abundantly watered region and few stockmen or farmers ever think of fencing in a field that has not one or more springs or branches. This irregular belt of country is 260 miles long.

This section has the unique distinction of being the only section in the United States which ships export cattle direct from the blue grass pasture fields to foreign ports. The Norfolk and Western Railway, which traverses this section, reports 2,500 carloads of export cattle and steers shipped during twelve months; spring lambs and sheep, 935 carloads; horses and mules, 333 carloads, and hogs, 4,652,702 pounds.

The mountains of this section cover untold wealth of minerals and coal, and the best soft steam coal that reaches the markets of the world comes from Appalachia Virginia.

The growing of cabbage and late potatoes have lately become a large and prosperous industry in this section of Virginia. One station shipped 1,250 carloads in one year, and the Norfolk and Western report, above referred to, gives the shipment of cabbage for the same period. Many carloads of cabbage are shipped to Cuba.

Seldom is found such pleasant blending of agricultural wealth and untold mineral deposits, with unlimited water power, awaiting the command of genius and capital to utilize it to commercial advantage.





The Virginia Winesap Apple.

Natural Resources and Commercial Possibilities

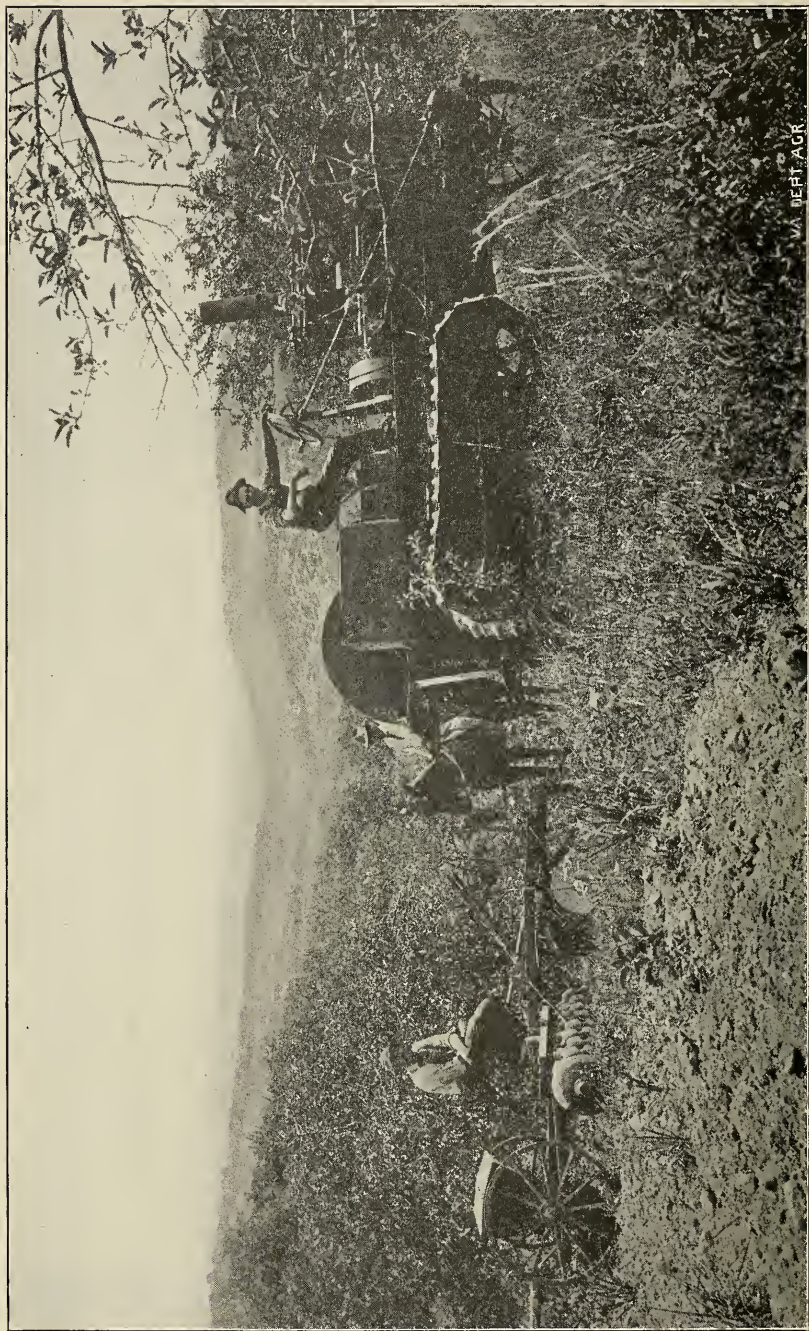


VIRGINIA is possessed of an abundance and variety of mineral materials, many of which have been worked since early colonial days, especially the coal, iron ores and brick clays. About forty mineral materials are now exploited, many of them on a large scale, which afford a basis of important commercial enterprises, and give to the State prominence in a varied and extensive mining industry, which amounts annually to more than \$20,000,000.

Mining of iron ore in Virginia in 1609 by the Jamestown colonists was the first iron ore mined in the United States. At present the total number of blast furnaces in the State is twenty-six. The commercial deposits of iron ore in Virginia are confined to the Piedmont and Appalachian region. The annual production of iron ores in Virginia amounts to about 725,000 long tons, valued at approximately \$1,500,000. The production of pig iron in Virginia is valued at about \$9,000,000.

Virginia has long held the position of first producer of pyrite (iron sulphide used in the manufacture of sulphuric acid) among pyrite-producing States in the United States. Commercial pyrite occurs in Louisa, Stafford, Spotsylvania and Prince William counties, and mines are opened in each county. The pyrite mines of Louisa and Prince William counties are the largest ones in the United States. Pyrrhotite, magnetic pyrite, used for the same purpose as pyrite, occurs in great abundance in Floyd, Carroll and Grayson counties. The annual production of pyrite and pyrrhotite in Virginia exceeds \$400,000 in value.

Gold in Fauquier, Stafford, Culpeper, Orange, Spotsylvania, Louisa, Fluvanna, Goochland and Buckingham counties. Gold mining in the State dates from the year 1831, and from 1831 to 1850 the production was reasonably steady, the annual value being between \$50,000 and \$100,000. At present the production is very small, but considerable activity is now being manifested in the mines of this belt, which should yield steady and profitable returns if properly managed. Copper ores are found in parts of Halifax, Charlotte, Warren, Fauquier, Rappahannock, Madison, Page, Green, Floyd, Carroll and Grayson counties. Lead mining in Vir-



A Power Machine at work in a large commercial apple orchard in Virginia.

VA DEPT AGR

ginia dates back more than 150 years, and the old lead mines of Austinville, Wythe county, were the first to be worked. Mining of zinc ores in the State dates from the opening of the mine at Bertha, Wythe county, in 1879. The "Bertha" spelter is of exceptional purity, and has a worldwide reputation.

The Virginia areas which have produced or are producing coal are as follows:

(1) The coal deposits of the *Richmond Coal Basin*, which covers parts of the following five counties: Henrico, Chesterfield, Powhatan, Goochland and Amelia.

(2) *The Frederick County Area*.—Including the Mountain Falls district in the southwestern portion of the county and near the West Virginia line.

(3) *The Augusta County Area*.—Includes the North River district in the northwest corner of Augusta county and the contiguous part of Rockingham county.

(4) *The Botetourt County Area*.—Includes the southwest corner of Botetourt county.

(5) *The Montgomery-Pulaski Counties Area*.—Includes Price and Brush mountains in Montgomery county, and Floyd and Little Walker mountains in Pulaski county.

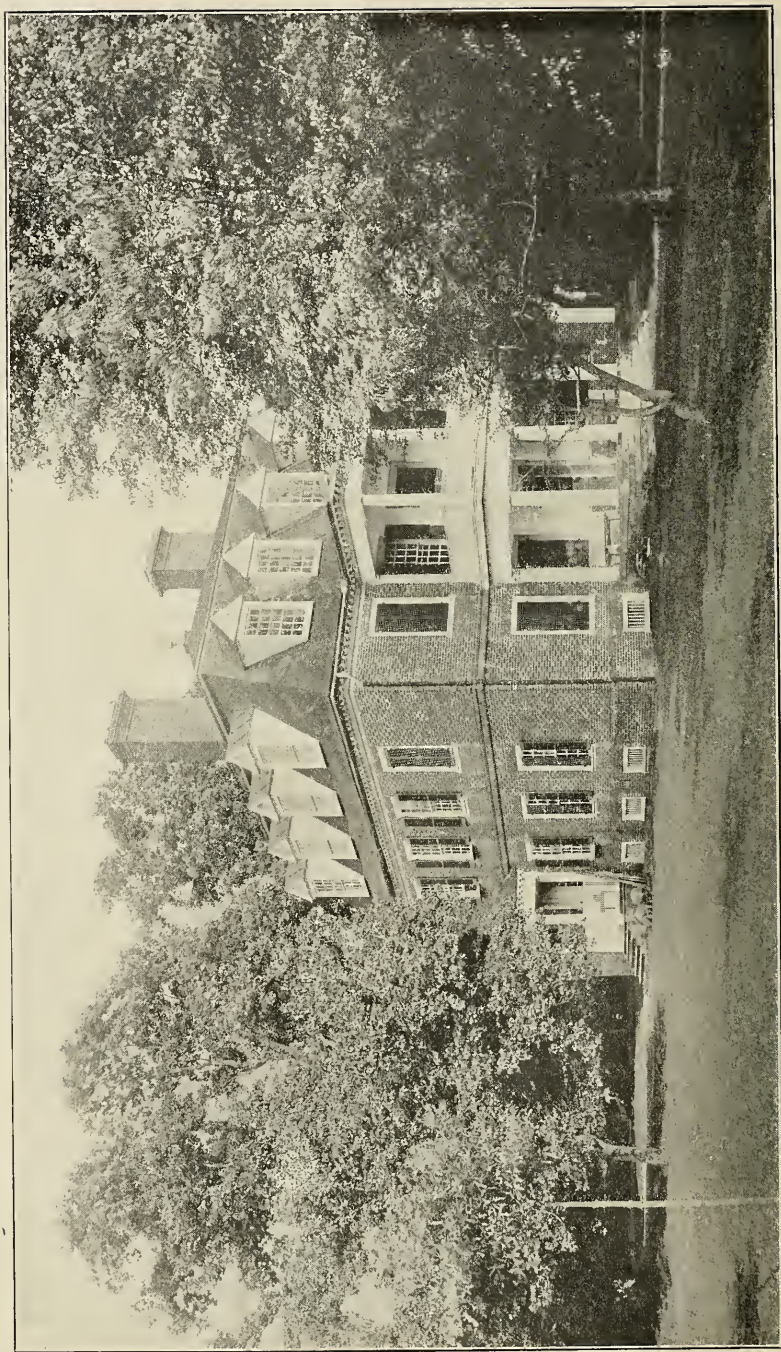
(6) *The Bland-Wythe Counties Area*.—Includes a small area in the southern part of Bland county and in the northern part of Wythe county.

(7) *The Southwest Virginia Area*.—Forms the southeastern portion of the Kanawha basin, and comprises the Pocahontas or Flat-Top and the Big Stone Gap coal fields of the following counties: Tazewell, Russell, Scott, Dickenson, Buchanan, Wise and Lee. Of these, Wise and Tazewell counties are the most important producers at present.

It is due to the Southwest Virginia field that Virginia is entitled to take rank among the principal coal producing States. Wise and Tazewell counties are the two most important producers. The other counties contain large reserves of coal, which in places are rapidly undergoing development. The annual production of coal in Virginia amounts to about 4,500,000 short tons, valued at about \$4,500,000.

The rapid development of the coking-coal fields in Southwest Virginia during the last few years has given Virginia rank as one of the four principal coke-producing States. There are nineteen coke-producing establishments in Virginia with a total number of ovens exceeding 5,000. The annual coke production in the State amounts to approximately 1,500,000 short tons, valued at about \$3,700,000 at the coke ovens.

The clays of Virginia show great variety, are widely distributed



One of Virginia's stately old Colonial homes.

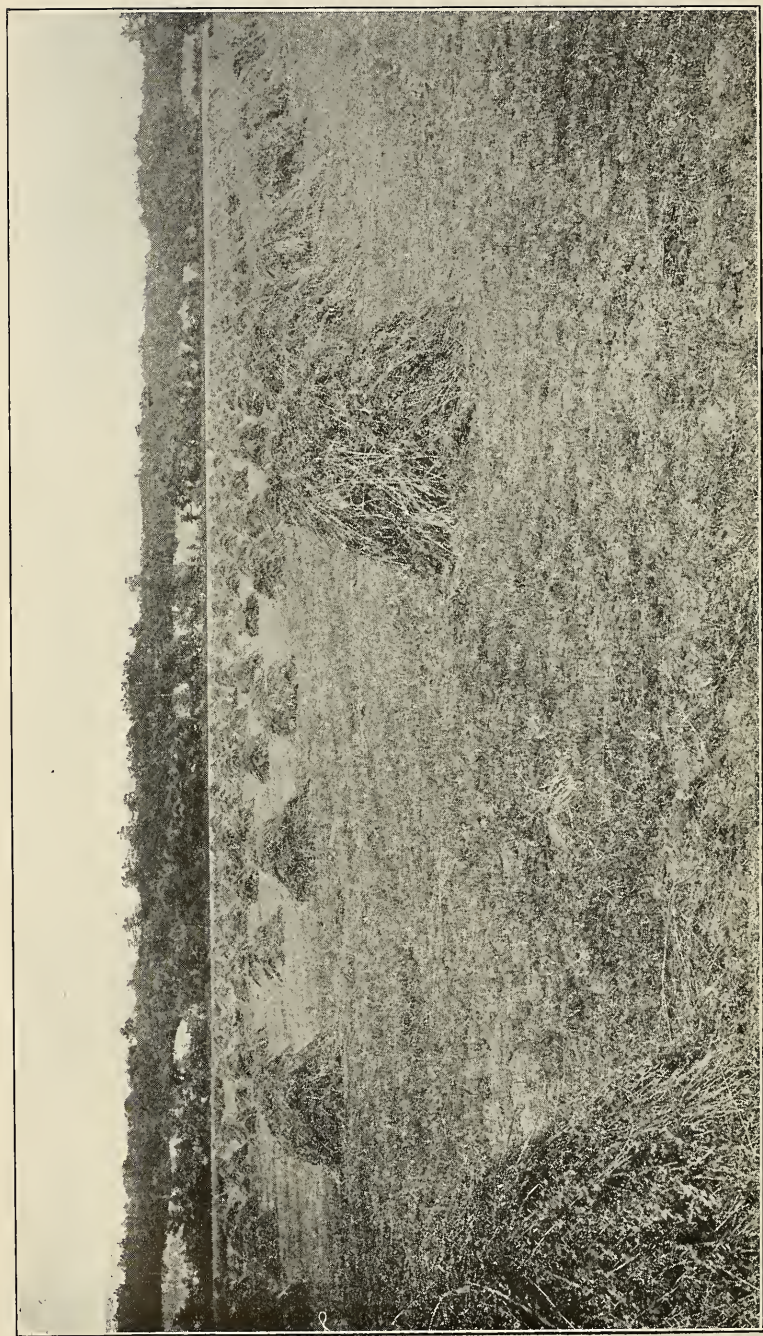
and are suitable for many commercial purposes. Almost every county in Virginia contains clay suitable for the manufacture of common brick, and, in most cases, the deposits are of such character that common brick of the best quality can be made. The total number of clay operating firms in Virginia exceeds eighty, producing annually clay products valued at more than \$1,500,000.

The production of stone has been an important industry in the State for many years, and the product of some varieties, especially granite, has been used in many notable structures. The stone industry is fourth in importance among those based upon the mineral wealth of the State, being surpassed only by the coal, clay products and iron ores. The annual production is valued at about \$500,000.

The mineral waters of Virginia are an important source of revenue in the State. Virginia has a very large number of spring resorts and a great variety and abundance of well-known commercial waters. Indeed, Virginia is par excellence a mineral-springs State, occupying among the South Atlantic States the same position that New York does in the North Atlantic section. Virginia is second only to New York in the number of springs that are utilized commercially, and exceeds New York in the number of resorts. The total annual sales of water from mineral springs amount to more than 2,000,000 gallons, valued at about \$500,000.

Rivers and Water Supply.

Five large and navigable rivers, with their affluent and tributaries, drain five-sixths of the State. These all empty into the Atlantic, four of them through the Chesapeake Bay, and one through Albemarle Sound. The four that empty into the Chesapeake are the Potomac, Rappahannock, York and James. The one that empties into Albemarle Sound is the Roanoke or Staunton. These are all navigable to the head of tidewater by large steamboats and sailing vessels. Besides these there are other long and copious streams or rivers, the Shenandoah, that flows through the Valley, and New river and Clinch in Southwest Virginia. These rivers are all supplied by multitudinous streams, rivulets and creeks; many of these long and of sufficient size to entitle them to the name of rivers. These affluents are but a few of the hundreds of streams in every part of the State that fall below the dimensions of rivers, but which, in conjunction with the bolder streams, irrigate the country and furnish inexhaustible water power. Never-failing springs of pure, sparkling water abound in every section, many of them possessing medicinal properties of



Virginia is rapidly becoming a great hay producing State. The money value per acre of the hay crop is larger in this State than in the West.

a high order. The annual rainfall is 35 inches in the southwest and 55 inches on the eastern coast, the average throughout the State being about 43 inches.

From the above statements it can easily be believed that Virginia is one of the most abundantly watered countries upon the face of the Earth. There can scarcely be found a square mile on which there is not either a running stream or a bold spring.

Water Power.

In this busy age, when every accessory of human industry is eagerly utilized, it may not be amiss to call more particular attention to the marvelous supply of water power which the rivers and streams of the State afford.

Even in Tidewater, the flattest part of the State, the numerous smaller rivers and creeks have sufficient fall to furnish ample water power for grist mills, and, of course, the same power could be used for other purposes. Where Tidewater joins Middle Virginia there is a rocky ledge, which rises up quite abruptly and over which all streams have to pour to reach the ocean. In pouring over that ledge rapids are formed which give magnificent water power. This water power is especially fine just above Alexandria, on the Potomac; at Fredericksburg, on the Rappahannock; at Richmond, on the James, and at Petersburg, on the Appomattox. "Indeed," as Commodore M. F. Maury says, "the James river and its tributaries alone afford water power enough to line their banks from Covington and Lexington, with a single row of factories, all the way to Richmond." New river also furnishes magnificent water power. In fact, all through the State an abundance of the finest water power is awaiting development. A very small proportion of this power is at present developed.

Of the four navigable rivers of Virginia that are tidal to the ocean, three of them, the Potomac, Rappahannock and James, take their rise in the mountain region and wind through landscapes of surpassing loveliness to deliver their waters into that bay which, like an inland sea, washes her eastern front. The York, a wide, straight stream, navigable for the largest vessels, is less than forty miles in length, and is rather an estuary, or arm of the bay, than a river.

The Chesapeake Bay is not only the most picturesque and beautiful sheet of water upon the globe, but it has no equal for the abundance and variety of the marine food which it supplies. It is 200 miles long, with an average width of 15 miles. It has the most abundant oyster beds in the world, and its Lynnhaven Bay

oyster is confessedly the largest and most delicious specimen of this bivalve to be found in any water. It supplies, in inexhaustible quantities, every fish known to the southern waters, with the exception of the pompano, which is peculiar to the Gulf of Mexico. Turtles, crabs, terrapins, lobsters and clams abound, while birds by tens of thousands crowd its waters, and the inlets and marshes that mark its borders—swans, geese, ducks and sora. The canvas-back ducks, that feed on the wild celery and grasses that fringe its banks, possess a game flavor that is coveted by the epicure.

We have not overdrawn the picture of the attractive invitation which Virginia extends to the homeseeker, particularly the one who desires to reside in the country and follow the life of a farmer. With her diversified surface and varied elevation, her mild climate, fine rainfall, well distributed through the year, Virginia, with her numerous water courses and streams and her fertile soil, presents an opportunity for all kinds of agricultural pursuits. The homeseeker can find an attractive location for any line of cultivation he may wish to follow. From the fish and oysters of the bays and estuaries, the peanut growing and trucking of the Tidewater, the raising of corn, wheat, oats, tobacco, fruits and stock of the Piedmont, to the blue grass grazing of the more mountainous section, he has a varied field of selection.

Forests.

The forests of Virginia abound in an unusual variety of woods, especially the valuable hardwoods so important in modern construction. In these forests are found every wood known to southern soils, except the noted red cedar of Alabama. Most of the uncultivated land consists of woodland tracts. Pine forests and cypress swamps cover vast areas of the Tidewater section. This soil favors also the growth of the cedar, willow, locust, juniper and gum, and to some extent the oak—woods that furnish the best material for staves, shingles, ship timber and sawed lumber. In the central and western sections are found the oak, hickory, walnut, chestnut, birch, beech, maple, poplar, cherry, ash, sycamore and elm. In the higher latitudes are found the hemlock, spruce and white pine. Oak, pines and poplar are the chief woods for building. The durable hardwoods—oak, hickory, walnut and chestnut—are valuable in the manufacture of agricultural implements, cars and furniture. Paper is made from the pulp of the soft poplar. Oak bark and sumac leaves are extensively used in tanning and dyeing.



VA. DEP. AGR.

Virginia is the flockmaster's ideal. Sheep husbandry is steadily increasing in this State.

Climate.

Man is so dependent in all the essentials of his existence upon the climatic conditions of the country he inhabits, a knowledge of the phenomena of climate is of the utmost importance. Virginia, as a whole, lies in the region of middle latitude between $36^{\circ} 30'$ and $39^{\circ} 30'$, giving it a climate of "means" between the extremes of heat and cold incident to States south and north of it.

The climate is mild and healthful. The winters are less severe than in the northern and northwestern States, or even the western localities of the same latitude; while the occasional periods of extreme heat in the summer are not more oppressive than in many portions of the north. The average temperature of the State is 56° . The summer heat of the Tidewater is tempered by the sea breezes; while in the mountain section the warm southwest trade winds, blowing through the long parallel valleys, impart to them and the enclosing mountains moisture borne from the Gulf of Mexico. As a place to live in all the year round, Virginia has no equal.

Virginia is also exceptionally free from windstorms and hurricanes, never having any like those which frequent the western plains and the States of the southwest. Such a thing as a dwelling house being blown over is a practically unknown occurrence.

MEAN MONTHLY TEMPERATURE.	July.	Dec.
1909.....	78.6	35.7
1910.....	76.5	37.9
1911.....	75.5	32.8
1912.....	73.5	34.4
1913.....	75.4	37.7

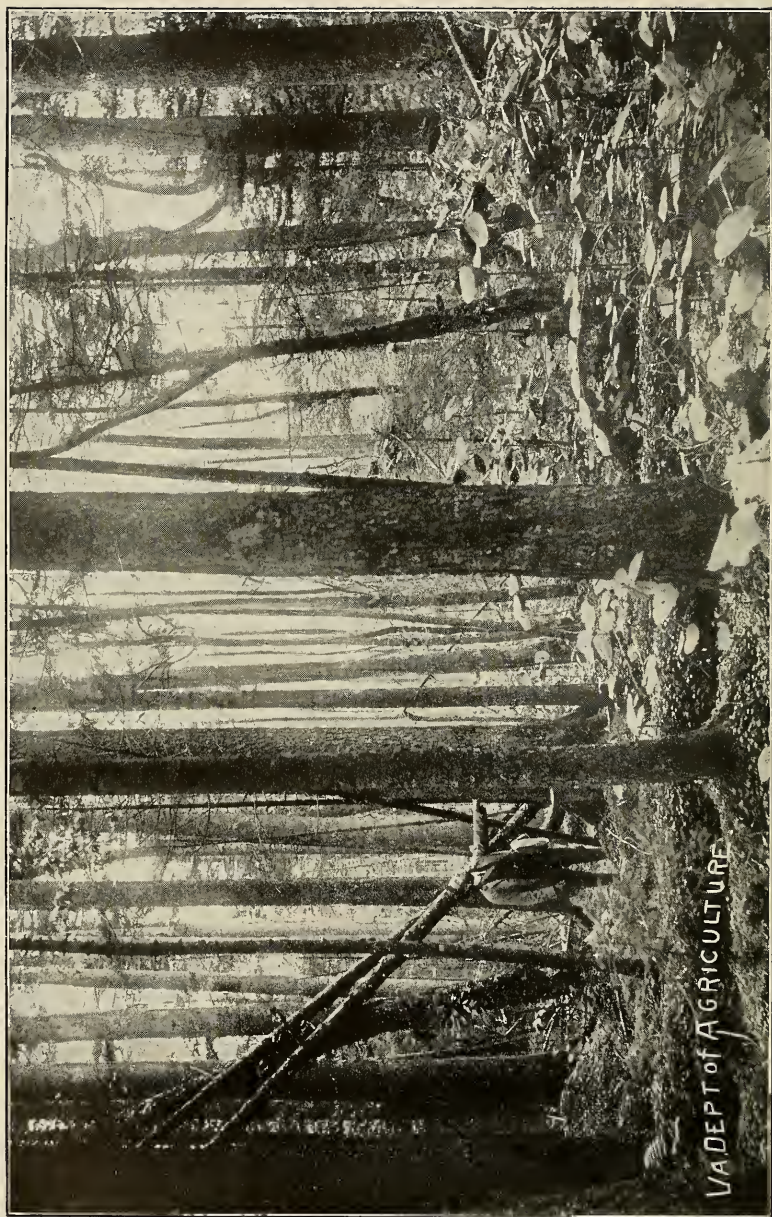
The westerly winds are the prevailing.

Rainfall.

The annual rainfall is from forty to sixty inches. It is fairly well distributed through the entire year.

Commercial Facilities.

In respect to ready access to markets for the products of her soil, of her foundries and factories, and of her inexhaustible beds of coal and iron, as well as in respect to facility of purchase from the markets of the world without, Virginia is most favorably circumstanced. Six trunk lines of railroads penetrate and intersect the State. These, with their numerous branch lines and their connections with other roads, place every portion of the State in com-



Virginia's lumber output has grown to one and three-fourths billions feet per annum.

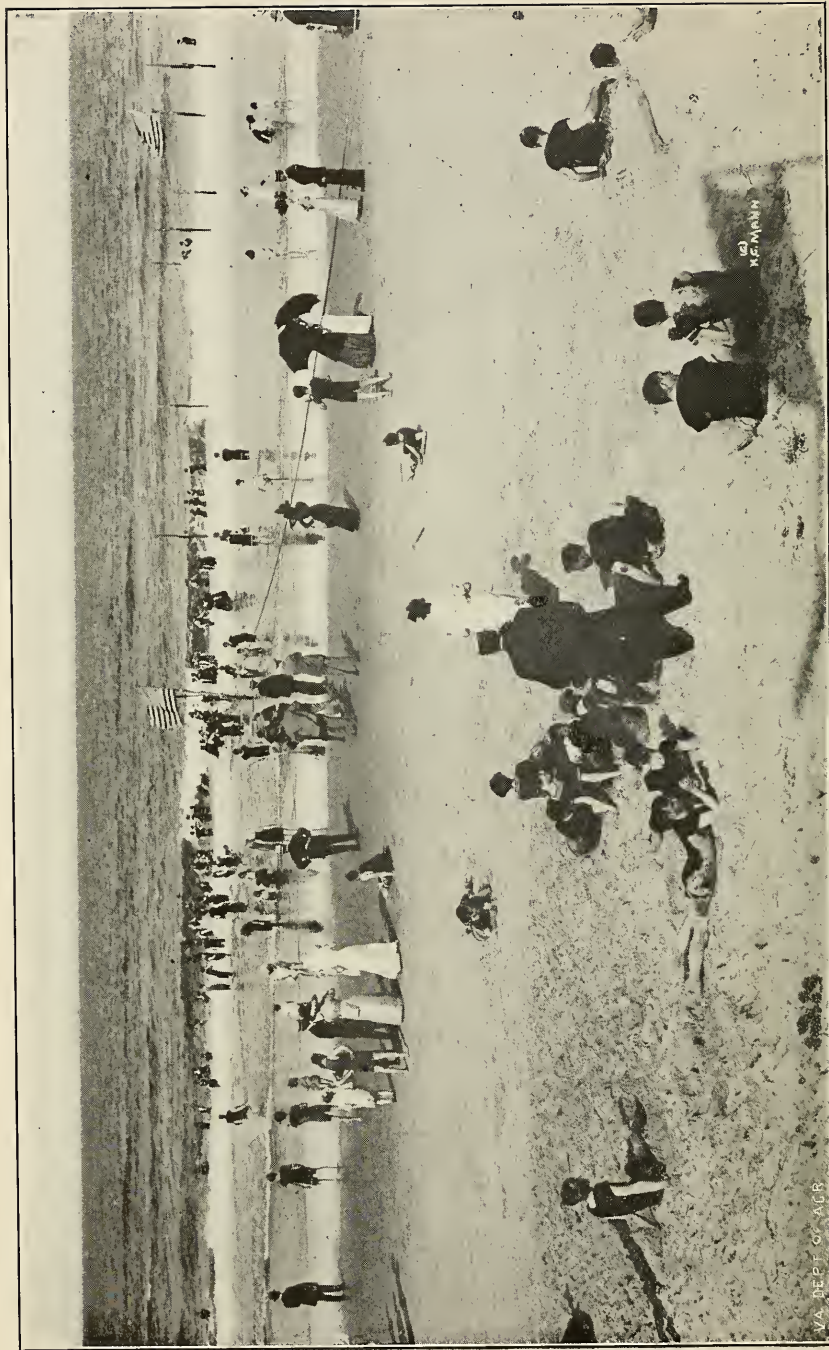
munication with every principal port and city in the country. The lines of steamboats that ply the navigable streams of eastern Virginia afford commercial communication for large sections of the State with the markets of this country and of Europe. At Norfolk and Newport News are ports that maintain communication with the European markets by means of seagoing steamers and vessels, while from these ports is also kept up an extensive commerce along the Atlantic seaboard. The harbor of Hampton Roads, upon which these ports sit like crowned queens of commerce, is the largest, deepest and safest upon the whole Atlantic coast. Upon its bosom the combined navies and commercial marine of the world can ride in safety and with ample berth. As has been before stated, these ports are nearer than is New York to the great centers of population, and areas of production, or the west and northwest. Chicago is nearer by fifty miles, in a direct line, to Norfolk than it is to New York. The harbor on the southern coast of England, between the Isle of Wight and the mainland, has been named, from its safety, the "King's Chamber." Hampton Roads, sheltered by the Virginia capes from the storms of the Atlantic, may well be regarded as our King's Chamber.

Natural Wonders.

Many of the most marvelous natural wonders of the world are found in Virginia. The most widely known of these is the Natural Bridge, in Rockbridge county, fourteen miles from Lexington. It is a stupendous bridge of rock, and from it the county (Rockbridge) received its name. It is 215 feet and six inches from the creek below to the top of the span of arch above.

In the limestone section of the State there are numerous caves. The most noted of these are Weyer's Cave, in Augusta county, and the Luray Caverns, in Page county. There are in both of these numerous halls, chambers and grottoes, brilliant with stalactites and stalagmites, and adorned with other forms curiously wrought by the slow dripping water through the centuries.

Crab Tree Falls, near the summit of the Blue Ridge, in Nelson county, are formed by a branch of Tye river. They consist of three falls, the longest of these leaps of the stream being 500 feet. This freak of nature, and the unsurpassed mountain scenery of the surrounding region, attract many tourists. The Balcony Falls, immediately where Rockbridge, Amherst and Bedford counties corner, the passage where the James river cuts its way through the Blue Ridge, presents a scene of grandeur little, if any, inferior to the passage of the Potomac at Harper's Ferry through the same range of mountains.



V.A. BEPT. 67. 1898

Where the gentle breakers of the Atlantic Ocean roll over the pebble beach on Virginia's seacoast, affording the most healthful and delightful bathing from early spring until late autumn.

Mountain Lake, in Giles county, is a beautiful body of deep water, some 3,500 feet above the sea level. The water is so transparent that the bottom can be seen in every part. Pleasure boats sailing upon it pass above the trunks and tops of large trees that are plainly seen. This would indicate that the lake is not of very great antiquity. Mountain Lake is a great summer resort.

The Dismal Swamp may properly be accounted a natural wonder. It is an extensive region, lying mostly in Virginia, but partly in North Carolina, and covered with dense forests of cypress, juniper, cedar and gum. It is a remote, weird region, inhabited by many wild animals. Its silence is broken by resounding echoes of the woodman's axe in hewing its trees that are of great value for the manufacture of buckets, tubs and other varieties of wooden ware, and for shingles, staves and ship timber. In the middle of the swamp is Lake Drummond (lying entirely on the Virginia side), a round body of water six miles in diameter, being the largest lake in the State. It is noted for the purity of its amber-colored water, the hue being derived from the roots of cypress and juniper. This water will remain for years without becoming stale or stagnant, and is used by ships and vessels going on long sea voyages.

Natural Tunnel, on the Virginia and Southwestern Railroad, in Scott county, is a freak of nature that has amazed thousands of tourists. In the early days the buffaloes found their ways under the mountain through this tunnel; in their trail came the early Indians and behind them Daniel Boone, who blazed the way for civilization; behind Boone and the early settlers, who were the progenitors of the present native mountain stock, came the steel rail and the monster locomotive.

Schools.

The people of Virginia are manifesting great interest in the movement for better schools. Associations for the improvement of the schools have been formed in every section of the State, and educators are constantly delivering addresses to interested audiences on the value of education and the importance of increasing the efficiency of our public school system.

The demand is going up from every section for better school-houses, better teachers and longer school terms. In addition to the primary and grammar schools, all the cities and towns, and many of the rural districts, have excellent public high schools.

During the past few years a standard of requirements for high schools has been prepared and put into operation in all of the State high schools. A course of study for primary and grammar



A great natural tunnel through a mountain on a level in which a broad-gauged railroad is operated.

grades has also been prepared and is being largely used in the State.

Normal Training Departments.

The Legislature appropriates annually for the establishment of normal training departments in the selected high schools of the State. These departments will aid very materially in providing a superior class of teachers for the rural schools.

Agricultural High Schools.

The Legislature of 1908 set aside the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of establishing departments of agriculture, manual training and domestic economy in at least one high school in each of the ten congressional districts.

School Libraries.

Recent legislation has made liberal provisions for establishing both permanent and traveling school libraries. The Department of Public Instruction estimates that no less than four or five hundred new school libraries will be opened in Virginia during the next twelve months.

Institutions of Higher Learning.

So high a standing have Virginia's institutions of learning that her colleges number among their students pupils from almost every State in the Union. The State has four splendid normal schools, maintained by State aid, for the preparation of women for the work of teaching in the public schools, located as follows: Farmville, Harrisonburg, Fredericksburg and Radford, Virginia.

The Virginia Polytechnic Institute at Blacksburg and the University of Virginia at Charlottesville are among the foremost institutions of the kind in this country. The Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, also a State institution, affords excellent instruction in military science, being second only to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

In addition to these State institutions of higher learning, there are many excellent private and denominational colleges, as well as Washington and Lee University, a private institution of high rank.

It will thus be seen that Virginia has a complete system of public instruction, extending from the primary grades to the university and the technical schools, and many private high schools, academies and colleges.

Industrial training has been introduced into the public schools of some of the cities and towns, and the State Board of Education

has made provision for introducing instruction in agriculture into the rural public schools, as well as in high schools previously mentioned.

The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton and the Virginia School for Colored Deaf and Blind Children at Newport News are among the most efficient of their kind in the country. There are also four State hospitals for the care of the insane, and one for the helpless.

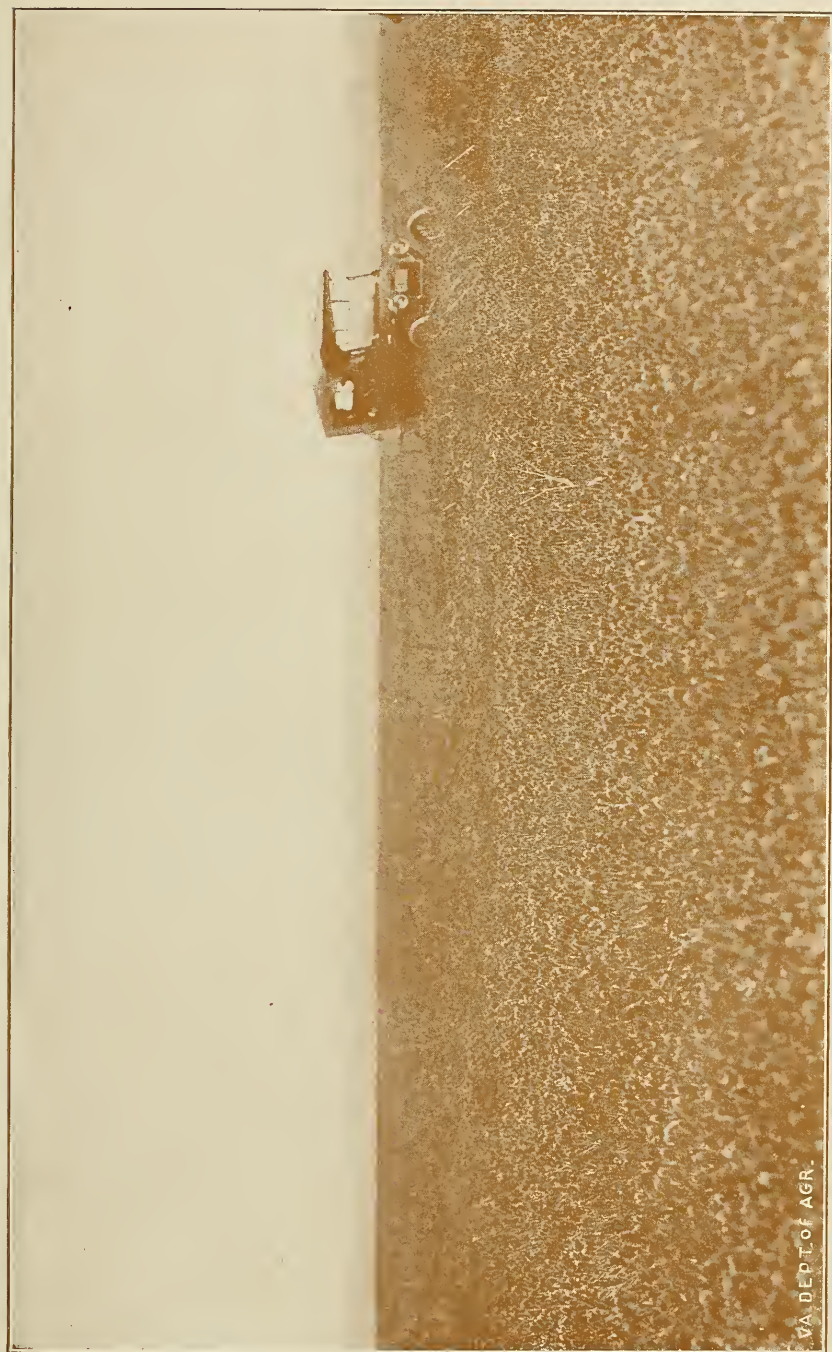
Virginia maintains an efficient system of public schools for colored children.

Agricultural Resources.

Although Virginia has very large, varied and important interests outside of agriculture, still agriculture has been, and is, her greatest and most important interest, and is the occupation of the great majority of her people. She is essentially an agricultural State. The principal agricultural products are tobacco, corn, wheat, oats, buckwheat, barley and the native and cultivated grasses, which, together with the clovers, yield an abundance of hay.

In the seaboard section, particularly in the vicinity of Norfolk, on the Eastern Shore, there are extensive areas devoted to truck farming, an industry which annually sends millions of dollars' worth of garden and farm vegetables and products to the markets of Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. In this same section, especially in the counties that form the southeastern portion of the State, between the James river and the North Carolina line, the cultivation of the peanut is an extensive and profitable industry, the annual value of the crop being about four a half million dollars. Virginia raises more and better peanuts than any State in the Union. The cereals are widespread over the State, but the Valley is pre-eminently the grain-producing region. Tobacco is, in a part of the State, the staple principally relied on as a money-making crop. Only one State in the Union, Kentucky, produces more tobacco than Virginia. The "Virginia Leaf," the finest tobacco raised in the United States, has a world-wide reputation for excellence. It thrives best in the uplands of Middle Virginia and in the Piedmont. In Halifax, Pittsylvania and Henry counties, bordering on the North Carolina line, midway of the State and in smaller areas of contiguous counties, the famous "bright tobacco" is raised. This always commands a high price.

There is every conceivable variety of soil in Virginia, from the almost pure sand of the sea coast to the stiff clay of the western



VA. DEPT. OF AGR.

100 acres of Crimson Clover, the great soil improver, as well as giving the farmer much winter grazing.

portions. Although of such variety, there is one noteworthy fact, and that is the ease with which nearly all of the soil can be cultivated, and its ready response to judicious treatment. If there is anyone, anywhere, who desires to take up any special branch of agriculture or desires to devote his time to the raising of any variety of cereal, grass, legume, fruit or animal, he can find in Virginia land and conditions ideally suitable to that identical thing.

What Secretary Wilson Said.

Secretary Wilson, of the United States Department of Agriculture, in the spring of 1909, said: "With proper attention to stock raising and legume growing six or seven years will make your southern lands worth \$100 per acre. There is no more alluring opportunity in America than that of taking \$10 or \$20 southern lands and increasing their values five or six times in a decade, besides making good profits while doing it."

And this advice, fortunately for the homeseekers and for the south as well, has been confidently followed. Particularly has Virginia profited by the southern trend of immigration, for her long growing season, her salubrious climate, her well-watered lands and her bright, sunny days, all assist nature in making her an ideal farming State. To those who have lived in regions harassed by long, cruel winters she seems an Eden.

Statistics, even to the most practical minds, are seldom interesting, but a few figures touching the Old Dominion will attract more than a passing glance from homeseekers in other parts of the Union and in foreign lands. Here are some notable things about Virginia:

In 1880 she had a population of 1,512,565. Today she has a population of 2,061,612—an increase of 36.3 per cent.

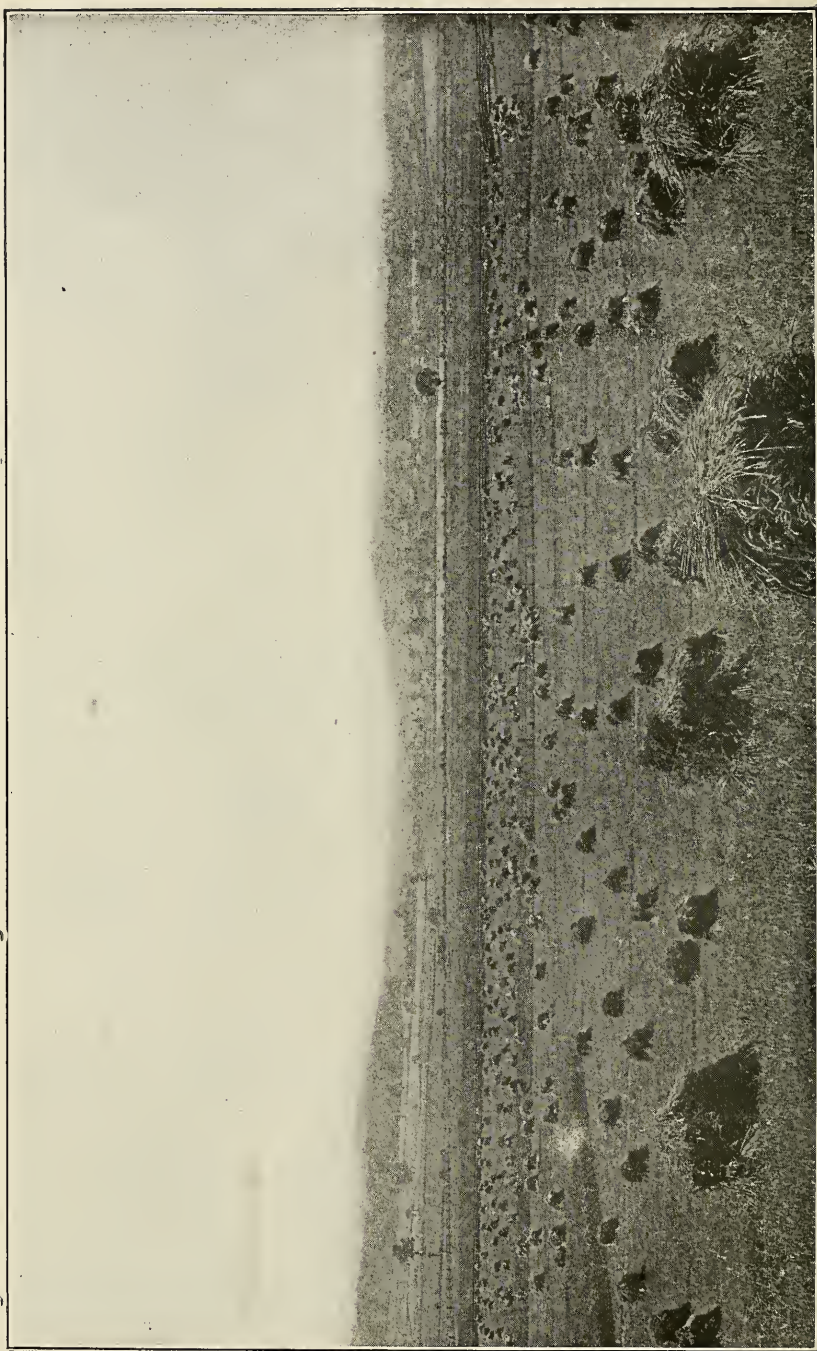
During the same period her wealth has increased from \$707,000,000 to \$1,650,000,000, or by \$943,000,000, which means a gain of 133.3 per cent.

Virginia's railroads, in the two decades mentioned, have increased their mileage from 1,893 miles to 4,609 miles—143 per cent.

Mineral production has jumped from \$1,438,000 to \$16,000,000, and lumber production from 315,939,000 feet to 2,102,000,000.

In 1910 production of corn in Virginia was 54,621,000 bushels; of wheat, 10,175,000; of oats, 4,268,000; of buckwheat, 378,000; of rye, 270,000, and of barley, 88,000.

But that only half tells the story. In 1910, 124,800,000 pounds of tobacco, 6,566,000 bushels of Irish potatoes and 565,000 tons of hay were harvested in Virginia.



An average of 40 bushels of wheat per acre in this 100 acre field.

With an extreme length of 440 miles the land of the Old Dominion rises from sea level to a height of more than 5,700 feet, and within its Tidewater, Piedmont, Valley and highland areas are between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 acres of soil not yet occupied by farms.

Grains.

Virginia is rapidly becoming an important grain-growing State; 160 bushels of corn and 40 bushels of wheat per acre are reported by some of our best farmers. The fact that the average price of

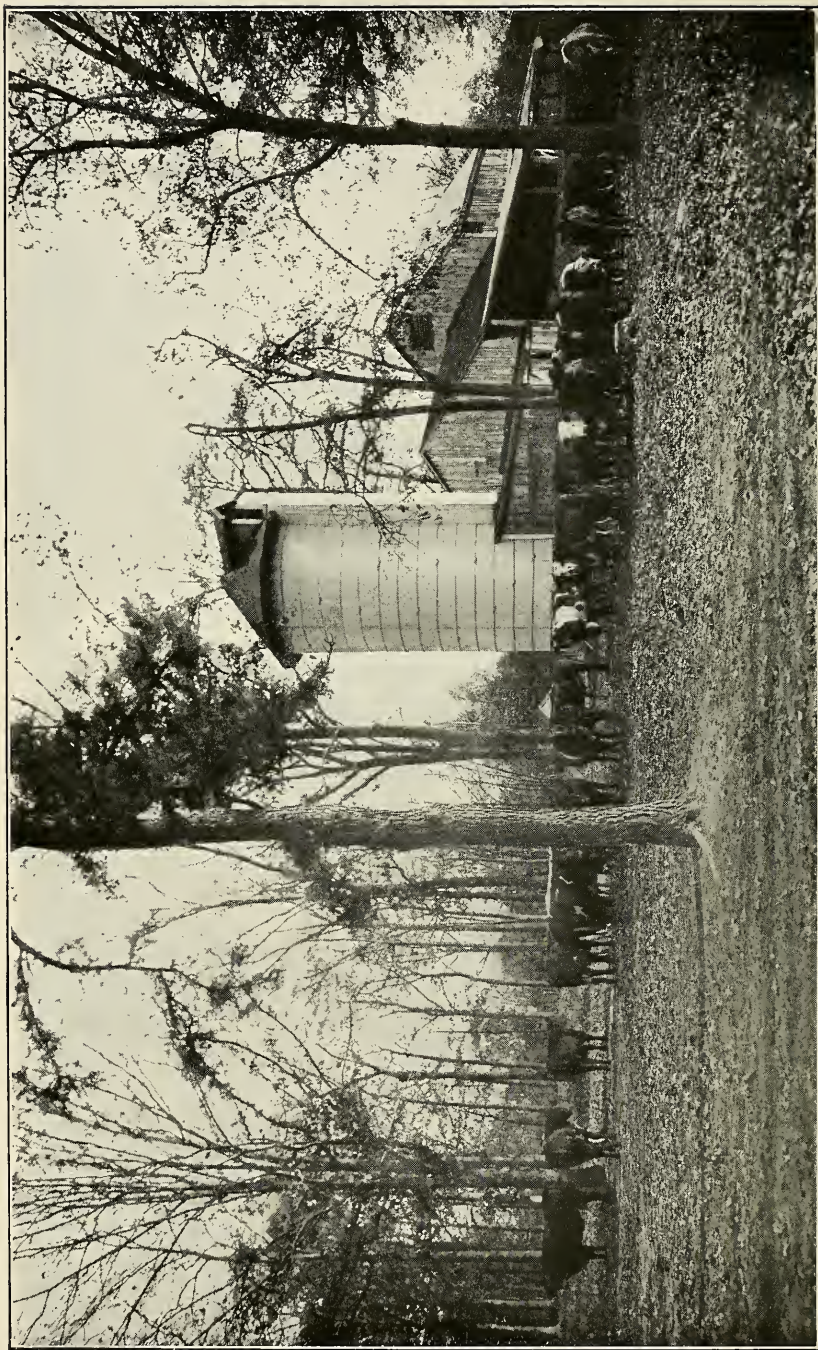


Some well-bred Virginia Corn.

corn per bushel is higher in Virginia than in any of the Western and North Atlantic States and the large increase in yields brought about by improved methods of agriculture have stimulated our farmers to greater efforts in grain production.

Grasses.

The western portion of this State has been recognized for years as an unsurpassed hay producing section. Bluegrass grows luxuriantly in the valleys and on the mountain sides. Clover, timothy, herds grass, or red top, and alfalfa are the principal grasses grown all over the State. Virginia is recognized as the home of the legumes—soil improvers and nitrogen gatherers—such as cowpeas, crimson clover, hairy vetch, soy beans and alfalfa. From the mountains to the sea these crops are grown, not only as soil improvers, but for forage.



The Silo furnishes the cheapest and best feed for cattle with the proper combination with some ground grain product.
Virginia grows every variety of forage for the silo.

Alfalfa.

Virginia now has about 50,000 acres in alfalfa. One farm has 500 acres growing, and produced in one year more than \$40,000 in alfalfa hay. Wherever scientific methods have been adopted success is always certain.

Trucks.

Virginia is today the greatest trucking State in America. Its truck crops last year brought \$15,000,000—an increase in ten years of 500 per cent. The counties of Accomac and Northampton produce annually more than three million dollars' worth of Irish and sweet potatoes. The whole eastern section of the State, contiguous to large bodies of water, has its climate so modified by the Gulf Stream and the land responds so quickly that truck raising has become a very lucrative business. Five railroad stations in Smyth and Wythe counties shipped in 1913 30,000,000 pounds of cabbage. Some Virginia trucking lands cannot be bought for \$300 per acre. Lands are valuable when cabbage and onions produce \$500 crops per acre; lettuce, \$1,300 per acre, and when 330 bushels of potatoes per acre grow on 100-acre fields. After the potato crop has been harvested the same land grows 50 bushels of corn per acre the same season; at the last working of the corn the land is seeded to crimson clover—three crops in one season. There is yet an abundance of land that can be bought for \$25 per acre and improved easily so as to grow fine crops.

Peanuts.

Virginia is one of the largest peanut growing States in America. On account of flavor and quality they bring the highest prices. One hundred bushels per acre can be grown. The yearly value of this crop is about five million dollars.

Tobacco.

Virginia produced in 1913 from 200,000 acres in tobacco a crop worth nearly \$22,000,000, which averaged 800 pounds per acre, an average value of \$128 per acre. Bright tobacco averaged 18½ cents per pound; dark, 7 cents per pound.

Virginia may justly claim to be the originator of the tobacco industry of this country. The principal occupation of the early colonists was tobacco culture.

In the historic town of Jamestown, in James City county, tobacco was first grown by the early settlers. The first exportation was made in 1612 by John Rolfe. At that time all of the tobacco, except what was used by the colonists, was exported to Europe.



**Ten years old winesap apple tree; produced 12 barrels No. 1 apples 1914.
Mr. Stedman's, Patrick county.**

The culture of tobacco rapidly increased so much that the substance of the colonists was seriously threatened. Consequently laws were passed by the Colonial Legislature of Virginia that every person cultivating one acre of tobacco should cultivate two acres of corn. Commercial fertilizers were unknown at that time, yet the colonists produced a fine quality of tobacco, due largely to the virgin fertility of the soil.

There are five distinct qualities of tobacco produced in Virginia—dark shipping, red and colored shipping, sun and air-cured fillers, bright yellow wrappers, smokers and fillers, and mahogany flue-cured manufacturing. These are each characterized by peculiarities of color, quality, body and flavor, the result of soil influence modified by curing and management.

Fruits.

Virginia is one of the most highly-favored fruit-growing States in the Union. Indeed, when the variety, abundance and excellence of its fruits are considered, it is doubtful if any other State can compare with it in this respect. Apples, peaches, pears, cherries, quinces, plums, damsons and grapes are in great abundance, while the smaller fruits, such as strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries and currants, are plentiful. The foothills of the Piedmont and Blue Ridge are specially adapted to the apple, some orchards producing as much as from \$450 to \$500 per acre. The peach, requiring a somewhat warmer climate, abounds more plentifully in Middle Virginia and Tidewater. The eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge are especially prolific in grapes, Albemarle county taking the lead in their cultivation. They are of excellent quality and flavor, both for table use and wine making.

Apples may be said to be the principal fruit crop of the State. They are extensively grown, and there is a yearly increasing number of trees planted. Mr. H. E. Vandeman, one of the best-known horticulturists in the country, says that there is not in all North America a better place to plant orchards than in Virginia. He says: "For rich apple soil, good flavor and keeping qualities of the fruit, and nearness to the great markets of the East and Europe, your country is wonderfully favored." The famous Albemarle Pippin is considered the most deliciously flavored apple in the world. Sixty years ago the Hon. Andrew Stevenson, of Albemarle, when minister from this country to England, presented a barrel of "Albemarle Pippins" to Queen Victoria, and from that day to this it has been the favorite apple in the royal household of Great Britain. Although the Blue Ridge, Piedmont, Valley

and Southwest sections are more particularly adapted to the apple, they are grown to some extent in every part of the State.

The fig, pomegranate and other delicate fruits flourish in the Tidewater region.

We have mentioned the cultivated fruit; but in many sections there will be found growing wild, in great abundance, the strawberry, the whortleberry, the haw, the persimmon, the plum, the blackberry, the dewberry, a fine variety of grapes for jellies and for wines, the cherry, the raspberry and the mulberry, and also will be found the chestnut, hazelnut, the walnut, the hickorynut, the beechnut and the chinquapin.

Some orchards in this State yielded crops that have sold as high as \$500 per acre in the orchard. There are now many large commercial orchards growing in the State.

Live Stock.

The large increase in grass and forage crops have caused many of our farmers who live in the eastern section of the State to turn their attention more to stock raising. This industry is rapidly increasing throughout the State.

Virginia is the only State that exports beef cattle direct from the bluegrass pastures. Seventy-five thousand head of highly bred cattle are exported from the grassy slopes of Virginia to English markets each year.

Sheep.

In the grazing sections of the State almost every farmer keeps a flock of ewes and counts the profits from his early lambs as clear gain. The pioneers in early lamb production were handicapped by the fact that markets were uncertain, buyers had to be hunted up and the difficulty of getting a carload ready at one time. All of these difficulties have been removed. Railroads supply the best shipping facilities; the buyer no longer has to be looked for—he is there ahead of the lamb—and everything indicates that the demand will be still more urgent.

Adaptability of the Country.

The business would not have grown to such magnitude in so short a time but for the advantages of the country. The highlands of the Appalachian region, varying from 1,500 to 2,300 feet in altitude, intersected with wide grassy valleys, and interpenetrated with streams of pure water, furnish an ideal sheep walk. They instinctively seek high ground for rest. They love an undulating, well-drained surface. These combinations of hill and valley,



VA. BEEF OF AGR.

Some of Virginia's export beef cattle, fattened on Virginia blue grass.

with luxuriant pasture and abundant shade, free from the extremes of the northern winter or the southern summer, are not to be found in such profusion elsewhere. All the native and cultivated grasses are available. The winter cereals—wheat, oats, rye, barley, etc.—sown in the early fall, furnish an abundant and nutritious winter pasture. Rarely is any shelter needed, and materials for the simple ones in use are present on nearly all farms.

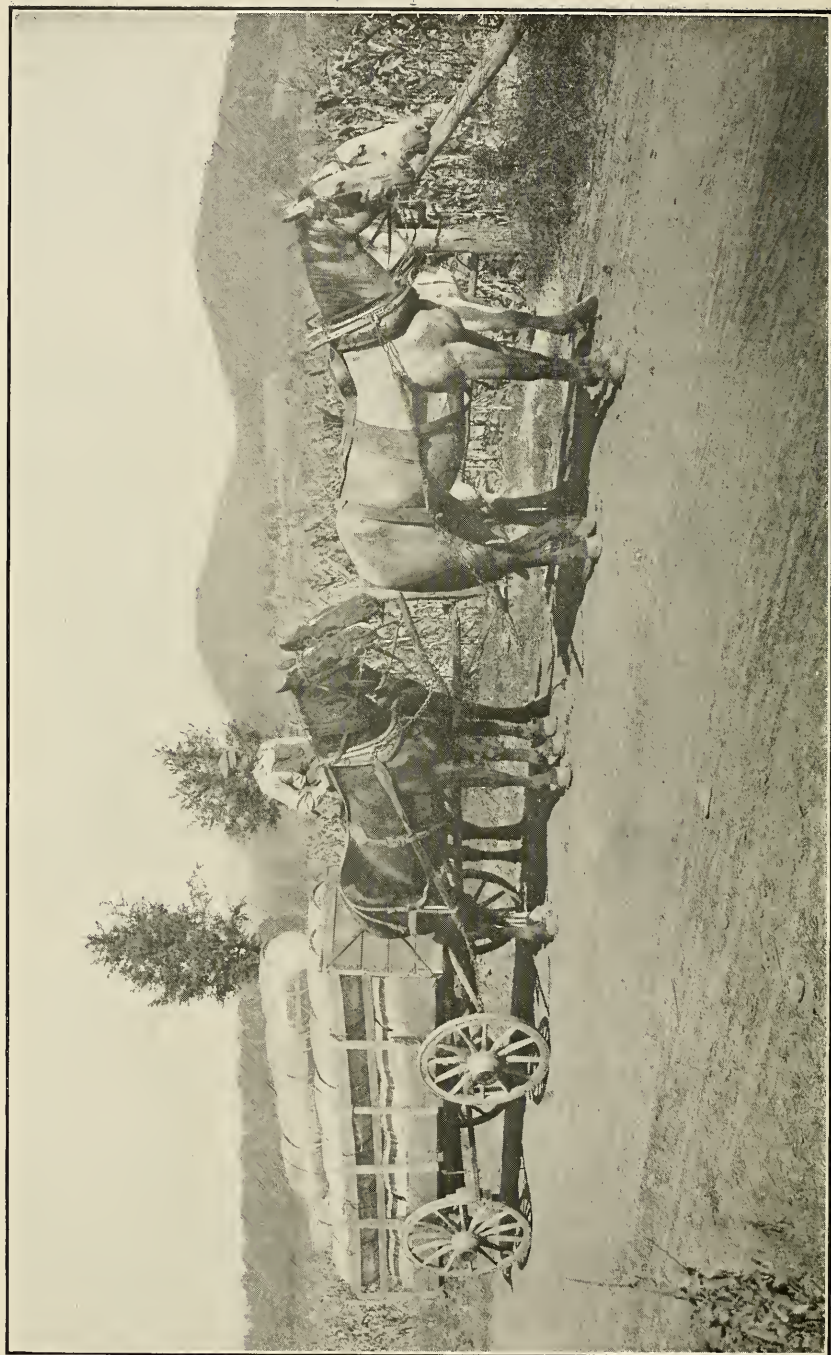
Market Facilities.

In addition to these climatic and physical characteristics are a great advantage in marketing. In seasons of normal severity Virginia lambs can be made marketable before the crop of the north is lambled. This young mutton reaches the market when feed lots are empty, and fills the gap between that juncture and the arrival of northern native and northwestern range lambs. How important an advantage this is may be seen from the fact that, as a rule, the price goes down about one-half a cent per pound for each ten days from the 20th of May (when the earliest are sent) to about the 1st of July. The only competitor in the market is the producer of "hot-house lambs," and he must get out of the way before this time to save himself. His product requires great skill, care and expense, and is also accompanied with no small risk.

Special Advantages.

Virginia has special advantages in her proximity to the large cities along the Atlantic coast. Her magnificent harbor is reached by well-equipped transportation lines, so that the commerce of the world may be said to have its doorway within her borders.

No student of the history of Virginia can fail to note the conspicuous place this great Commonwealth has occupied in our Union since Colonial days. While Virginia, as the mother of Presidents, has achieved political eminence in the annals of the nation, she has been no less prominent in all those activities that bring material prosperity. Indeed, with all of her wealth of brilliant men and women, it is doubtful whether she could have achieved the high place she has occupied as a colony and as a State had not nature dealt with her in a lavish manner. Her rich soil attracted planters, who found in her ample harbor and broad, navigable rivers transportation facilities that were unequaled on the Atlantic seaboard; proximity to European markets was from the first an asset that proved a powerful help in giving value to her agricultural lands, as well as to her products.



A load of export apples on the way to the railroad station.

Ground Limestone.

By an act of the General Assembly, the State is now building a large lime-grinding plant. Ground limestone will be furnished to the farmers at cost.

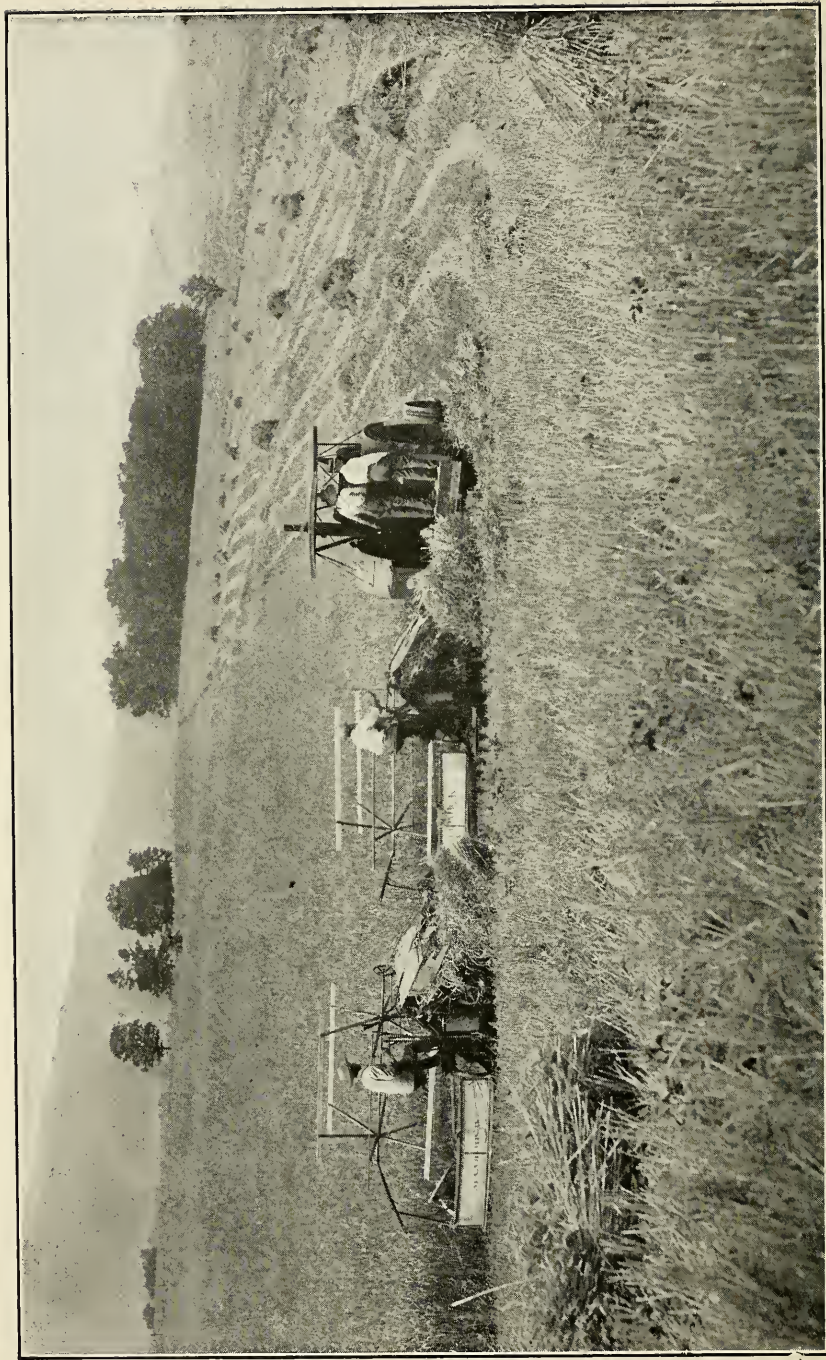
Manufacturing.

More than \$200,000,000 is invested in Virginia manufacturing establishments, and the State ranks high in the value of manufactured products. The annual lumber cut exceeds 2,000,000,000 feet; mineral products annually approximate \$25,000,000, with 5,000,000 tons of coal; yearly iron output nearly 1,000,000 tons. Cotton areas nearby furnish her textile mills with the best grade staple; wheat and corn are produced in the rich agricultural areas of the State; and marbles, building stones, cement work, etc., also give the State prestige in manufacturing, as well as the large tobacco factories, roller mills, locomotive works, foundries, shoe factories, knitting mills, wagon factories, peanut mills, tanneries, etc., all with raw materials at hand or easily accessible.

Water Power.—A minimum of 500,000 horsepower is available on a number of watercourses, and fuel is cheap and abundant. The lines of transportation give excellent service, and the great markets are reached with facility.



Virginia has millions of undeveloped water-power.



On many of our Virginia farms more power machinery is being used. Mr. Hopkins, on his Rockingham county farm, harvested his wheat crop with a Gasoline Tractor Engine, cutting 49 acres in 10 hours.

The Market Advantages in Virginia.

According to the United States Government report, the value of an acre in—

Corn.

Per Acre.

*Virginia	\$19.76
Illinois	17.01
North Dakota	14.98
Missouri	12.95

Wheat.

*Virginia	\$13.06
Minnesota	12.31
Nebraska	12.71
Kansas	11.27
Ohio	7.84

Oats.

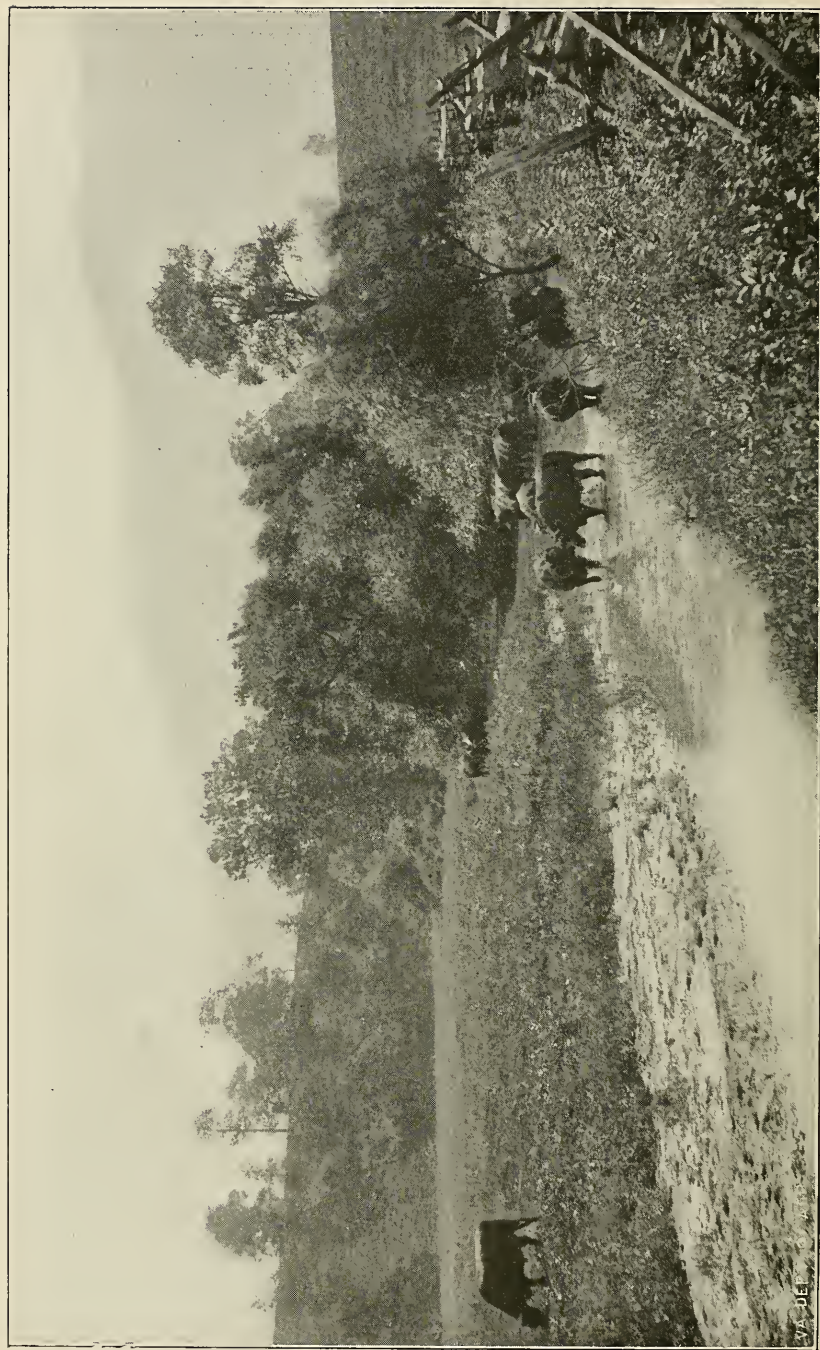
*Virginia	\$11.18
Nebraska	10.07
Missouri	9.54
North Dakota	7.71

Potatoes.

*Virginia	\$75.20
Minnesota	57.20
Pennsylvania	70.40
Indiana	44.52

Hay.

*Virginia	\$19.68
Ohio	16.64
Iowa	14.21
Illinois	13.82



A shady nook, where the export cattle are enjoying a cool drink of pure mountain spring water.

**Statement of Capital, Surplus and Deposits of the National Banks
Located in the Southeastern States.**

	Capital.	Surplus.	Gross Deposits.
Washington, D. C.....	\$ 6,500,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 36,000,000
Virginia	17,600,000	11,600,000	113,000,000
West Virginia	10,000,000	6,400,000	64,000,000
North Carolina	8,400,000	2,800,000	46,000,000
South Carolina	6,300,000	2,100,000	30,000,000
Georgia	15,100,000	9,300,000	63,000,000
Florida	7,500,000	3,000,000	40,000,000
Alabama	10,200,000	5,800,000	50,000,000
Mississippi	3,400,000	1,600,000	17,000,000
Louisiana	3,000,000	2,300,000	17,000,000
New Orleans	5,200,000	3,000,000	34,000,000
Kentucky	12,300,000	5,200,000	46,000,000
Louisville	5,500,000	2,700,000	33,000,000
Tennessee	13,200,000	5,500,000	78,000,000

	Cap. & Sur. Nat. Banks.	Cap. & Sur. State Banks.	Total.	Deposits.
Washington City	\$11,500,000	\$16,200,000	\$27,500,000	\$83,000,000
New Orleans	8,200,000	13,300,000	21,500,000	89,000,000
Richmond, Va.	10,700,000	7,300,000	18,000,000	53,000,000
Atlanta, Ga.	9,700,000	7,300,000	17,000,000	35,000,000

Figures taken as far as possible from statement of Comptroller of Currency, Richmond, Va., Atlanta, Ga., from Bankers' Register, as these are not reserve cities. Figures regarding State banks also taken from Bankers' Register.

ONE OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS IS LOCATED IN
RICHMOND, VA.

What Others Say About Virginia

[The writer of this brief article, Mr. W. D. Zinn, who is a citizen of another State, has traveled extensively in a dozen other States. Mr. Zinn is one of the best informed men in the country on the agricultural conditions and the opportunities offered to the industrious homeseeker.]



NO State in the Union offers greater inducements to the homeseeker than the old State of Virginia. Her mild climate, pure water and productive soil make her almost a paradise for those who want to enjoy life on the farm and at the same time accumulate competence. No matter what line of farming one desires to follow, here may be found the conditions suited to it. As a live stock country no State surpasses her. For the production of grain crops she has no superior and but few equals. Cotton and tobacco are produced very profitably. As to the production of fruit she is already gaining a world-wide reputation. Some of the largest commercial orchards of the East are found within her borders, and some of these orchards have produced an annual income of from \$300 to \$500 per acre. This fruit has been produced on lands that a few years ago sold for \$10 to \$20 per acre, and there are yet thousands of acres of land that can be purchased at low figures that will produce as fine fruit as any of the bearing orchards. The fruit-grower can find no greater inducements than are found in the "Old Dominion." Why go to the northwest and purchase high-priced lands, grow fruit and ship it four thousand miles when better fruit can be grown on these cheap lands with the markets at the door?

The Helpfulness of the State Agricultural Department.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture, which a few years ago was about to be abolished, is now one of the most important branches of the State Government. The present commissioner, Hon. G. W. Koiner, was put in charge, and from a small office it has extended its usefulness into every branch of agriculture.

The first step toward helping the oppressed farmer was to have enacted such a law as would protect farmers against indifferent and adulterated fertilizers, and at the same time provide a fund for the maintenance, support and extension of agricultural work



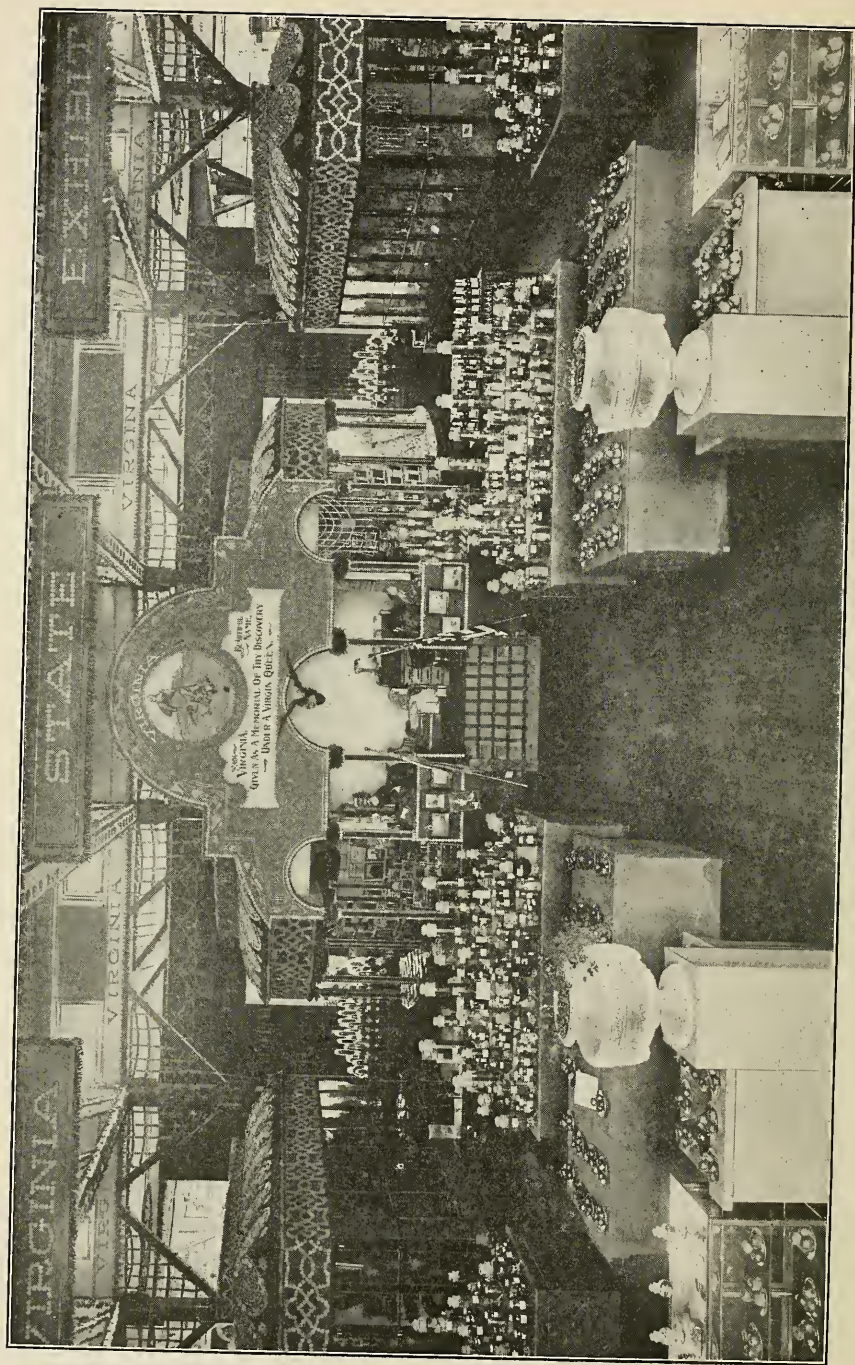
Plowing under red clover is one of our best soil improvers; a big crop of any kind is sure to follow.

and science. This fertilizer law which our commissioner worked for and had passed is saving the farmers of Virginia from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 each year. And as we are using about \$7,000,000 worth of fertilizer each year in the State, can anyone doubt this statement, if we stop to consider for a moment what the result would be if \$7,000,000 of fertilizer were allowed to be dumped on the farmers of the State without watching and inspection and being analyzed to see that it contained the fertilizer value claimed on the bag?

First, every manufacturer offering fertilizer for sale in Virginia is required to register the same with the Department of Agriculture, giving weight, name of brand, name of manufacturer and the guaranteed analysis. There are ten inspectors in the State of Virginia (one from each of the congressional districts), traveling in each of these districts in the spring and fall of the year when the fertilizer is moving. These inspectors collect samples of fertilizers and send them to the Commissioner's office with such information as they find on the sacks. This information is recorded by the fertilizer clerk and then the sample of fertilizer is given a number and is sent to the laboratory. It is analyzed and reported in the bulletins, and violations are prosecuted by law. Samples of lime are drawn in the same way.

The department has also a well-equipped seed laboratory, and seeds are sent in by the farmers to be tested and are collected also by inspectors from the Dairy and Food Division of this Department, who travel the entire year. After these tests are made by the seed analyst, then the results of these tests are printed in the bulletin, giving both the guarantee and what was found, also publishing the names of the seedsmen, so that whether it be fertilizer, lime or seed, these facts are all published for the benefit of the farmers, who can see for themselves just from whom and what they are buying. As a result of this seed inspection, twelve violations of this seed law were reported to the Commonwealth's attorney in one month. Our seedsmen are trying to get better seed to comply with the law more satisfactorily.

Hog cholera serum is another branch of new work the Department is handling successfully, and during the last three years over \$100,000 worth of hogs have been saved. The farmer can now put his money into this important industry and feel he can depend on this serum saving his hogs if administered to them in time. It is furnished at actual cost of manufacture, and the Department is doing this work without any additional cost for clerical force or for labor. This is but further evidence of the economical use of the employees of the office.



Some of Virginia's products artistically displayed.

Immigration Aided.—This is also a branch of the Department which has accomplished a valuable work in bringing to the attention of other States the opportunities Virginia offers to good and worthy citizens, and as a result our idle acres are being taken up and the prices of lands have doubled during the last ten years. The Department publishes literature, books and bulletins and sends them broadcast to the north and west and answers over ten thousand letters annually from inquirers from other States concerning Virginia lands. Many millions of dollars are invested every year in Virginia lands, and their values are increasing steadily.

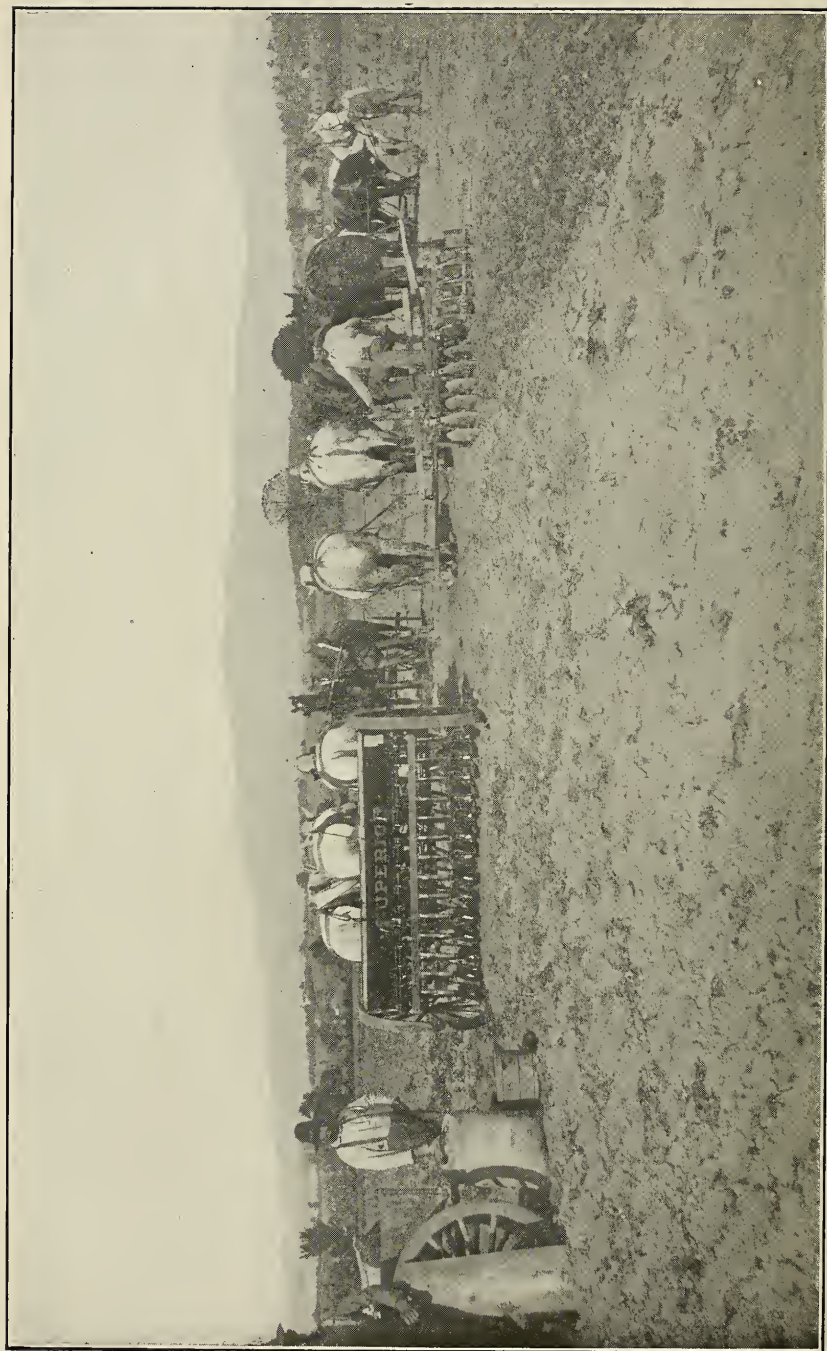
In addition to 70,000 bulletins being mailed to the farmers of this State each month, the Department issues an annual report of 200 pages, which is also mailed to these 70,000 farmers; and in this connection will state, so far as we are advised, this is the largest regular mailing list in the State—and all bulletins are sent free to our farmers.

Besides the different kinds of work already enumerated, Mr. Koener answers in the neighborhood of twenty-five thousand letters, in addition to the immigration mail, asking about Virginia lands. These letters cover every phase of farming. Plants and weeds of all kinds are sent in for identification, as well as insects of all kinds for the same purpose.

Test Farms.—Five test farms are being maintained by this department. At these farms, experiments of all kinds are being conducted with all kinds of farm and truck crops; and as these farms enlarge their work and have time to work out extended tests, the farmer and trucker will gain a great store of information as to varieties, methods of culture, seasons of planting and the combating of insects. No one farmer is able to make these tests and must rely on his Department to work them out for him.

Lectures and Farmers Institutes.—The lecture field is recognized as a valuable branch of agricultural work, and your Commissioner, through the assistance of the railroads, has, with his lecture force, reached and addressed many thousand farmers every year. The best lecturers that could be gotten were secured, and whenever available, they came from our experiment stations and the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington.

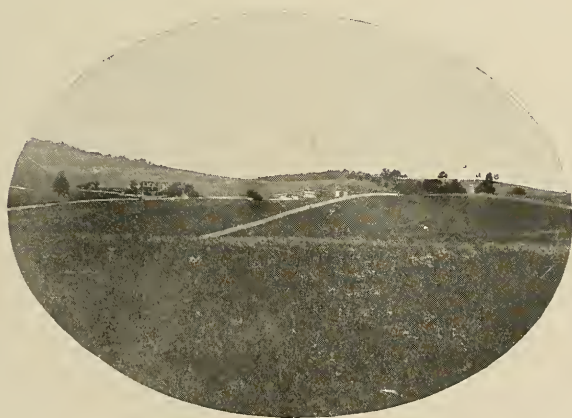
Museum Maintained for Farmers.—In order that the farmers might be inspired and edified, a splendid collection of farm crops are kept on exhibition at the Department. This is one of the best exhibits of this character shown by any State. It is a source of pride to the Commissioner to say to the farmers of Virginia that all this work is done from the funds realized by the sale of tax tags and the registration of brands of fertilizers, from which source



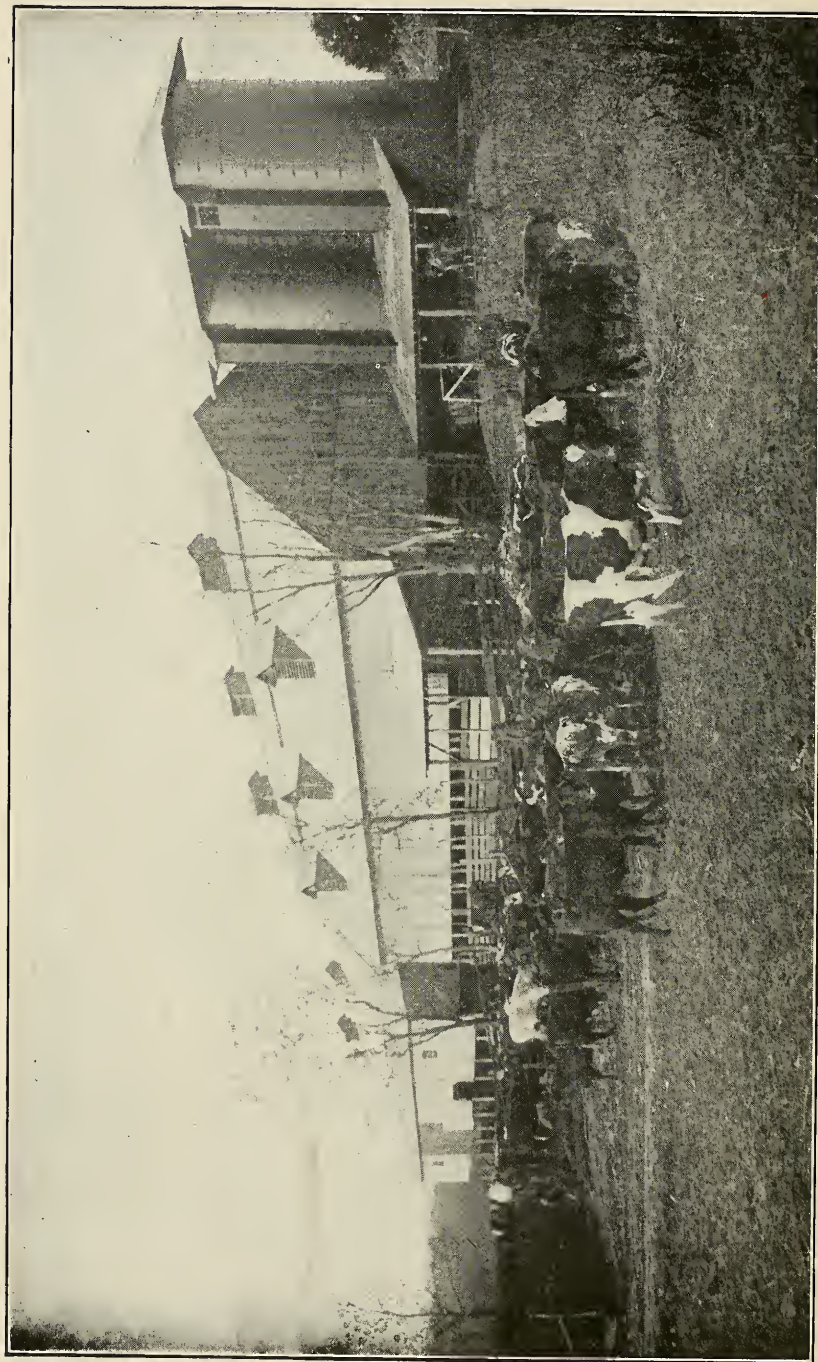
One of Virginia's well-equipped farms.

about \$60,000 is derived. Many other States receive from five to twenty times this amount with which to develop agriculture in their respective States, and yet it has been stated that the Virginia Department of Agriculture gets the best agricultural results of any State.

Our farmers are asked to write for any information relating to their work. If you have any noxious weeds that you wish identified or any mineral you want analyzed, or any other information on better farming, just write to Hon. G. W. Koiner, the Commissioner of Agriculture, at Richmond, Virginia, and you will receive information to lead you to secure satisfactory results.—*From Southern Progress Magazine.*



Virginia farm scene.



The silo increases the profit to the feeder and dairymen.

The Dairy and Food Division of the Department of Agriculture

BENJ. L. PURCELL, *Commissioner.*



THIS division of the Department was established by the General Assembly in 1908, and has developed into one of the most important bureaus of this Department, as its work relates to the protection of the food supply for man and beast, and the promotion and encouragement of the dairy industry in the State.

Due to the constant supervision maintained by the inspectors of this division over all articles of food offered for sale, the requirement for the observance of proper sanitary precautions in food manufacturing and distributing plants, and the inspection of the stock and poultry feeds, the food and feed supplies of the State are most effectively guarded against adulteration and misbranding. Our bakeries, meat shops, grocery stores, hotels, restaurants, dairies, creameries and, in fact, all food distributing places, compare most favorably with the best conditions obtaining in other States in the cleanliness of their surroundings and methods employed in handling their food products.

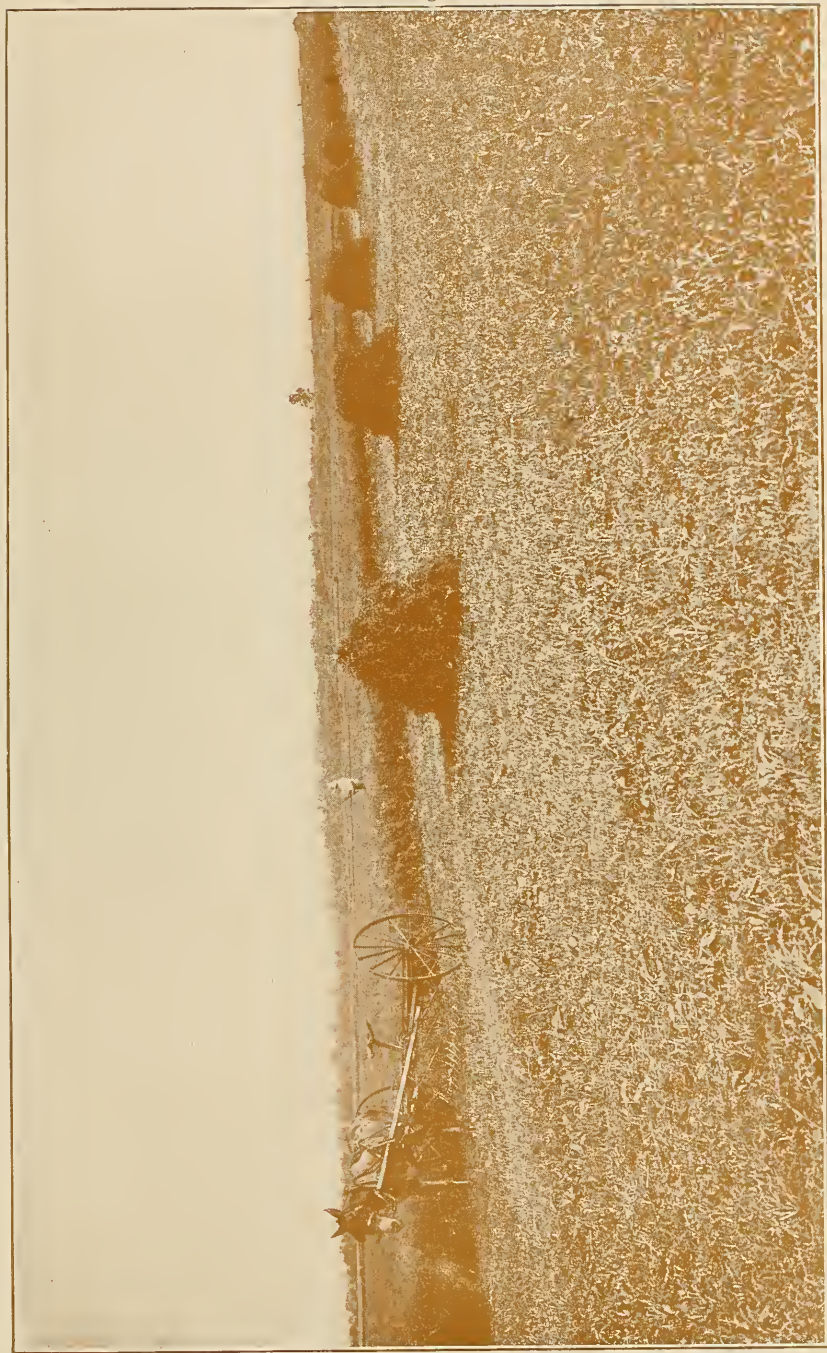
The legislature recognized the unusual advantages the State offers for the promotion and increase of the dairy industry, and has made special provision by liberal appropriation of funds and the enactment of beneficent legislation to foster and encourage this most important branch of the agricultural development of the State. Under the direction of the Dairy and Food Commissioner competent instructors are sent out to the dairy farms, creameries and cheese factories to confer and advise with the owners in connection with the many problems which the dairymen meet and must overcome. These instructors are specially fitted for this work; are men who combine the science and theory of dairying with an actual practical experience that make their suggestions and advice especially valuable. They give advice in the selection, handling, breeding and feeding of dairy cows, building barns and silos, the protection and marketing of the product and the sanitation of the dairies, creameries, etc.

The special advantages for dairying the State offers are our equable climate, responsive soil and unlimited markets for dairy products. The home consumption is not alone supplied by our own

production; we have half a dozen States on or near our borders who would be eager buyers for a possible surplus, and our excellent water and rail transportation facilities put our output about forty-eight hours nearer to the outside markets than any competitors we will have. Our mild winters and long grazing seasons materially lessen the costs of the operating plants, expensive barns are unnecessary, while the cost of production is so materially lessened by the enormous forage crops that can be produced on our lands and the natural pastures we have that any possible competition could be speedily overcome by the thrifty and intelligent Virginia dairyman.

The attention of breeders and of dairymen generally is directed to the splendid opportunities which Virginia offers as a location for those who have had experience in the breeding of dairy cattle. In addition to the fact that the cost of raising the calves is very much lower in this State than in the great dairy States of the North and West, the Virginia breeder has at his door a demand for purebred cows and for the better class of grade animals which cannot now be supplied, and which is increasing with the rapid development of the industry in this State. The advantages are all on the side of the local breeder of dairy cattle. The dairymen of the State have learned that animals bred in Virginia are nearly always free from tuberculosis and other contagious diseases, while the contrary is frequently true as to imported stock. The State regulations as to bringing dairy cows into the State are of necessity very rigid, and the Virginia dairyman would prefer to buy his cows within the State if his needs could be supplied by local breeders. To the south of Virginia is a tier of States in which the dairy industry is in its infancy. A wonderful commercial development is in progress in these States. Large cities are growing up which must be supplied with milk. The dairymen supplying these cities are beginning already to buy a better class of milkers, and this demand is constantly increasing. The breeder of dairy cattle who establishes himself in Virginia is assured of a market which will improve from year to year.

Dairy farming in Virginia offers one of the surest prospects of reward to the farmer who looks for quick returns from his investment and who will give to his work the energy and care that success demands. The expert butter and cheese maker will find a field well worth his investigation, and in which a limited investment properly managed can be made to produce profitable and satisfactory returns. The Dairy and Food Division will furnish to prospective dairy farmers, creamery and cheese men full detailed information as to the dairy industry of the State and assist anyone who may contemplate investigating the local conditions existing in the various localities of the State.




Alfalfa, the great forage crop, enables the farmer to increase his profits in all kinds of live stock.

The New Education in Old Virginia

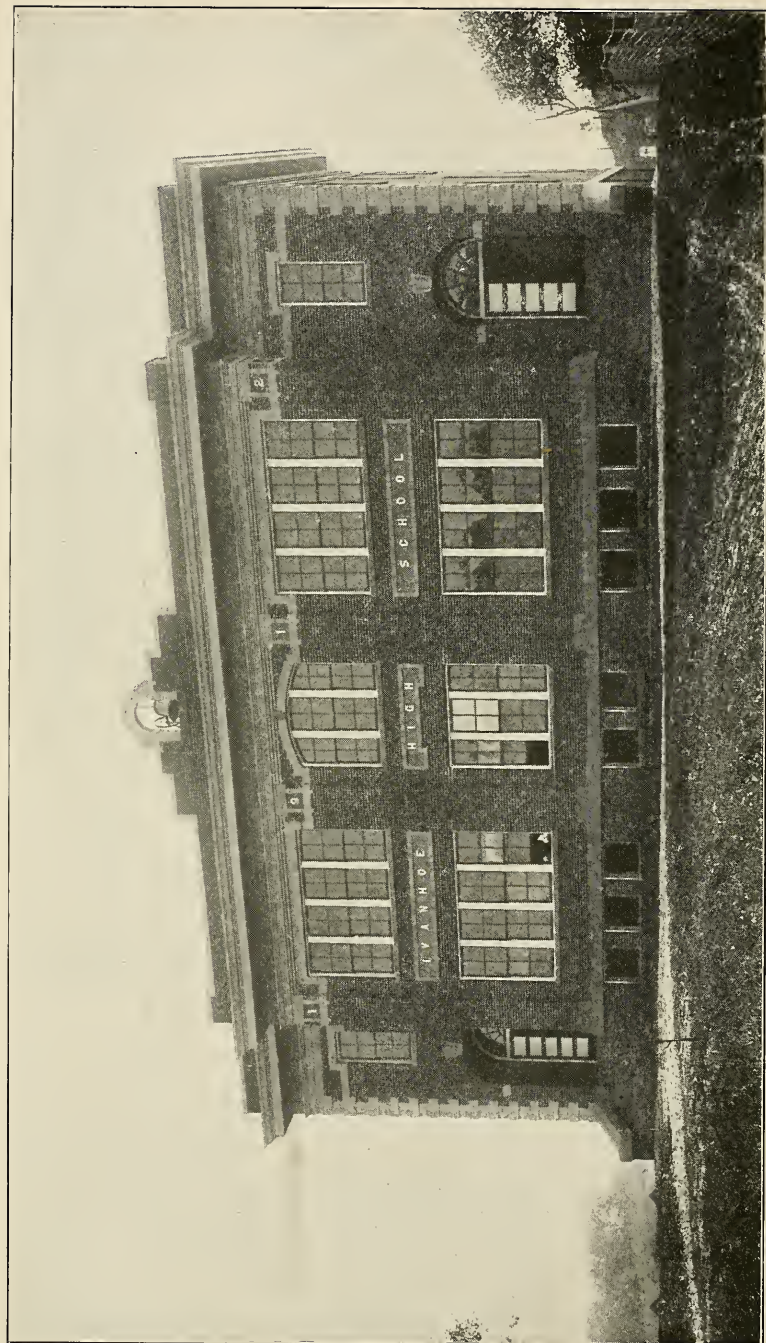
R. C. STEARNES, *State Superintendent of Public Instruction.*

Nine Years of Progress in Education in Virginia.

	1905.	1914.
School revenues	\$ 2,432,102 45	\$ 6,262,286 35
Salaries of teachers	1,749,516 18	3,768,688 35
Annual cost of buildings.....	262,030 58	865,273 84
Total value of school property.....	4,297,625 96	11,346,899 96
Total enrollment	361,772	445,078
Average daily attendance.....	215,205	297,426
Pupils engaged in school gardening...	.....	3,551
Number boys enrolled in corn clubs..	.....	1,422
Number of girls in girls' canning clubs	.....	485
Number pupils studying agriculture..	.....	8,830
Number pupils studying manual training .....	.....	29,636

HE desire to educate all of the children of all of the people in all useful branches is a very prominent and, perhaps, a distinguishing feature of the life of this generation. This desire prevails in this State and is the mainspring of the great effort we are making to offer "Old Virginia hospitality" to the homeseeker of today, in the guise of a well-located, well-lighted, well-ventilated, well-supervised and well-taught school, well beloved and well cared for by an organized civic community with modern ideals.

This program, which will seem quite ambitious to anyone who takes the pains to examine our bank account, is not based upon dollars and cents alone. Indeed, our public school funds are not even approximately adequate as yet to our needs—and that, notwithstanding the fact that we have increased those funds nearly two hundred per cent. during the past ten years. Therefore, Virginia must still depend upon the progressive spirit of her people, which has wrought this great change in public sentiment and which has piled up these additional millions, for the current revenue of her schools. She must depend upon the co-operative spirit which has brought about the new ideals and hopes, rather than upon the



A country High School in Virginia.

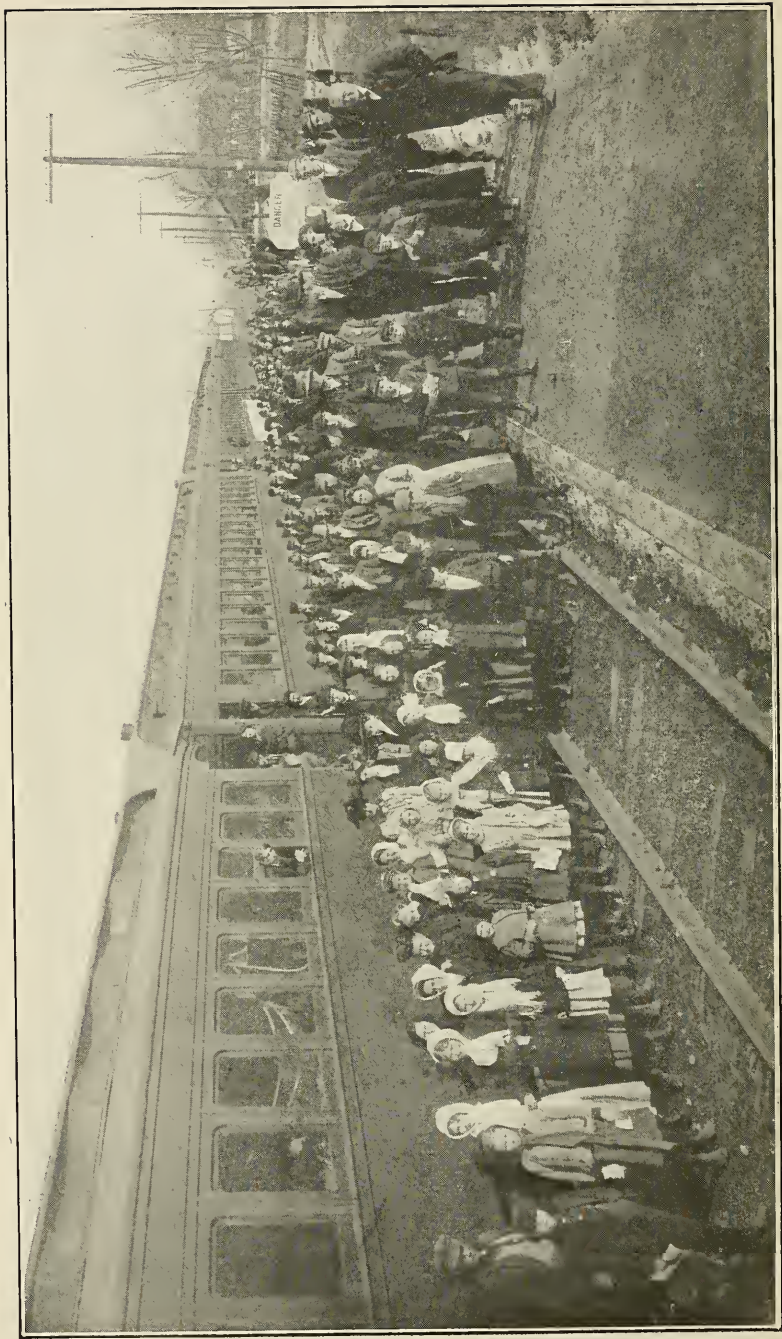
tangible evidences of those ideals and hopes in the shape of better school-houses, better salaries and larger revenues.

A Well-Organized School System.

Virginia's school system is unusually well-organized. It lends itself to co-operation as naturally as the sunflower turns to the sun. A striking illustration of this fact is found in our laws concerning the distribution of school funds, which are of three kinds—State, county and district. The State funds are apportioned to all of the schools of the State, the county funds to all of the schools of the county, and the district funds to all of the schools of the district. These methods of distribution tend to help weak schools, and the statute expressly declares that the county school funds shall be apportioned with "due regard to maintaining, as far as practicable, a uniform term throughout all of the districts of the county." Again, the legislature has provided six special funds. Out of the "high school fund" the State Board of Education aids the community which desires to have a high school; out of the "graded school fund" consolidated schools of two, three and four rooms are aided; out of the "rural school fund" one and two-room schools are given longer terms and better teachers; out of the "agricultural, manual training and domestic science fund" agricultural high schools have been established in each congressional district; out of the "normal training fund" thirty departments for training teachers have been established in high schools; out of the "library fund" fully three hundred schools are assisted each year in securing a permanent library.

Besides these six funds, which are steam generators of great capacity in the workshop of progress, the legislature has provided a loan fund from the capital of the permanent Literary Fund, out of which one-half the cost of a new school building may be borrowed on fifteen years' time at three and four per cent. interest. And, finally, since the rural school situation in Virginia, as elsewhere, is the point of chief concern, I must make mention of the selfdenying attitude of our Virginia cities and wealthy towns in cheerfully consenting to the distribution of nearly every dollar of the five funds first above mentioned, all of which are large funds, among rural schools.

It is evident, therefore, that the constant tendency in Virginia during the past decade has been to strengthen the weakest link, and among other results of this enlightened and liberal policy may be mentioned the increase in the number of high schools from 74 to 514, the increase in enrollment of high schools from 6,000 to 22,540, the increase in the number of two-room schools from 450 to



The attendance at Farmers Institutes increases each year. All railroads and the Old Dominion steamship boats give transportation for institute work in Virginia.

967, the increase in the number of schools having three rooms or more from 275 to 899, the increase in the number of books in libraries from 42,330 to 248,741, the increase in average cost of new school buildings from \$720 to \$5,700, and the increase in length of session which, after this year will probably make six months the minimum term in every rural school. In this connection, I should also mention the introduction of courses in agriculture, manual training, cooking and sewing in both elementary and high schools. All of these things have been done in the short space of ten years, yet to those in the thick of the fight, it seems as if we had only begun to make progress.

Co-Operating Forces—The Department of Agriculture.

Not only have all of the educational forces learned to do team work among themselves, but they are also privileged to work in closest harmony with State departments other than their own. For example, this opportunity of accepting an invitation to speak to the people through the columns of *The Handbook* of the State Department of Agriculture is sincerely appreciated, and in the very latest issue of the Virginia Journal of Education, the head of the "Rural School Department" quotes a country teacher as follows:

"I wrote to the commissioner of agriculture, Hon. G. W. Koiner, Richmond, and told him I was teaching dairying, so please send me, for my pupils, any bulletins that would help us, and he sent so many that the freight was twenty-five cents. These the pupils took home and the parents read. When the city inspector came from Richmond he spent the night at my boarding house. I persuaded him to go to school with me and lecture, which he did. He discussed soil, pasturage, kind of stock, sanitation and so on. He gave good illustrations, told jokes and helped me hold the pupils' interest very much. Dr. M. gave my school a talk; subject, 'The soil here and its adaptation.' "

Other Co-Operating Forces.

In granting pensions to teachers, in dealing with contagious diseases, in fostering medical inspection of school children, and in insisting upon sanitary conveniences at all schools, the State Board of Health and the State Board of Education are true yoke-fellows. In dealing with delinquent and sub-normal children we labor earnestly and pleasantly with the State Board of Charities and Corrections. A special day is given to "Good Roads" in a large number of our schools in collaboration and co-operation with the State Highway Commissioner and his office.

I might enumerate other evidences of co-operation in Virginia among institutions of higher learning, normal schools, teachers' associations, civic leagues, women's clubs, State departments and other agencies, but enough has been said to illustrate my point and I have not the space to describe fully all the sources of aid which are continually in our minds as they furnish daily proofs of interest in the Virginia boys and girls.



A comfortable Virginia country home.

The State Board of Health of Virginia

DR. ENNION G. WILLIAMS, *Health Commissioner.*



THE Virginia General Assembly of 1908, whose record for progress has rarely been equalled in the history of the Commonwealth, reorganized the health administration of the State in line with modern ideas, and made possible an enlargement of the State's health activity commensurate with her progress in other lines. Under the new law, the Board of Health, consisting of twelve practicing physicians, was supplemented by an executive staff of trained sanitarians, whose whole time was to be given to the work of the board. In addition, more liberal appropriations made possible a systematic campaign for the improvement of health conditions in the State.

Realizing the fundamental importance of popular education in any sanitary campaign, the board at once established the *Virginia Health Bulletin*, a popular publication intended to carry the fundamentals of modern sanitation into every home in the State. The bulletin met with immediate recognition, both within and without the State, and now has the largest circulation of any distinctively sanitary publication in the world. It reaches an average of more than 60,000 Virginia homes every month. It is written in popular style, without technicalities, and treats of the simple yet all important things which must be mastered by the average citizen if he is to aid in the work for better health. The literature of the board was given an award of merit at the International Congress on Hygiene and Demography in Washington, in 1912.

To supplement the *Health Bulletin*, the board has for a number of years maintained a press service which furnishes to the newspapers of the State a weekly digest of the activities of the board with such general information on sanitary matters as is calculated to be of the most interest and value to newspaper readers. This press service has been warmly received by the newspapers of the State and has been of the greatest value in the education of the people of the State along sanitary lines.

The act reorganizing the Board of Health directed the establishment of a sanatorium for consumptives. In August, 1909, there-

fore, the board established in the Alleghany mountains, near Salem, Va., an institution for the treatment of incipient tuberculosis. From a beginning of forty beds, Catawba Sanatorium, as the institution is known, has grown to a capacity of 160 and has done invaluable service in the campaign against consumption in the State. Located in a charming valley, at an altitude of 2,000 feet, just under the slope of one of the highest ranges of mountains in the State and on the site of an old watering place long famed for the treatment of pulmonary complaints, the institution is a haven of refuge for the consumptives of the State. In the results of its treatment it ranks with the best in the world.

Realizing the great value of antitoxin in the treatment of diphtheria, and seeing the great limitation to the use of the priceless remedy caused by the high retail prices, the board within a few weeks of its reorganization made arrangements for the supply of antitoxin to all citizens at wholesale prices—about one-fourth those which had formerly been charged. The demand for this remedy soon reached large proportions and met so marked a need that vaccine virus and anti-typhoid vaccine were supplied in a similar manner. This arrangement has placed these valuable products within the reach of the humblest citizen of the State and has resulted in a saving to the citizens of Virginia of an amount almost in itself sufficient to pay the whole cost of the board's work.

For the control of typhoid fever and other infectious diseases, the board secured competent assistance and has supplied, without cost to any community in the State, the services of such experts. In cases where the local authorities are unable to control any epidemic, the board takes entire charge of the situation until the disease has been controlled.

The laboratory of the board was opened at once to render expert laboratory assistance in the diagnosis of infectious diseases to the physicians of the State. From a total of 3,800 specimens for the first full year of its activity, it examined in 1914 more than 16,000 specimens of all kinds.

One of the most imperative needs disclosed by the studies of the sanitary situation in the State was the control of water supplies and sewerage systems. To meet this need the board employed a competent sanitary engineer, whose whole time is given to the study and inspection of these supplies and systems. Any town or city contemplating the establishment of a new plant or the extension of any existing water or sewerage plant can secure the services of the engineer without cost for expert service, for the revision of plans or for a general inspection of the whole situation. The work of the sanitary engineer has been reflected in such a marked im-



Loading export beef cattle. Virginia is the only State that ships beef cattle for export direct from the blue grass pastures.



View of the mountains from the lawn of the Catawba Sanatorium of the State of Virginia, Roanoke county.

provement that Virginia now ranks with the first States of the Union in this regard. As supplementary to the work of the sanitary engineer, the laboratory makes systematic examination of all public waters in the State and of all waters furnished to passengers on railroad trains in the State.

The work of the board was made more exact and efficient through the passage by the General Assembly in 1912 of a law for the registration of births and deaths in the Commonwealth. The Bureau of Vital Statistics, organized in accordance with the provisions of this act, immediately began the collection of statistics of births and deaths, and for the year 1913 was admitted to the registration area of the United States Bureau of the Census. By this means the control of disease is made more accurate, the results of sanitary work can be measured, and the vital records of the citizens of the State are preserved for all time.

One of the duties imposed on the board is the inspection of all hotels in the State. These are regularly visited and graded by an inspector of the board. All sanitary laws and regulations affecting hotels are rigidly enforced.

In co-operation with the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission, the



Portico of the Catawba Sanatorium, Roanoke county, Va., winter.

board carried on during 1909-1914 a systematic campaign against hookworm disease, in the course of which the whole State was thoroughly evangelized regarding the means of spread, prevention and cure of that disease. More than 101,000 citizens were examined microscopically and more than 25,000 treatments were dispensed.

A recent development in the activity of the board has been the inspection of the rural school children of a number of counties. The population of Virginia being so largely rural, the health of rural districts has at all times been a large factor in directing the activity of the board, and the work against hookworm disease drew attention strongly to the need of medical inspection of school children. In the absence of local machinery for doing this work, the board organized and has thus far carried out in four counties of the State a systematic medical inspection of every school child. The board is planning further extensions of this work to develop a systematic plan of regular medical inspection of all school children.

In addition to the publicity afforded by the health bulletin and the press service, the board has maintained for several years a lecture bureau, which furnishes lecturers without cost to public meetings in all parts of the State. More than 1,000 lectures annually have been delivered under the auspices of this bureau since its establishment, and in this way hundreds of thousands of citizens have been reached most effectively.

The prevalence in the State of a considerable number of cases of rabies and the high cost of the Pasteur treatment as administered by private institutions led the board to administer Pasteur treatment free of cost to the indigent citizens of the State. Examinations of rabid animals are made without expense by the Hygienic Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

The board has recognized from its beginning its duty to contribute to sanitary knowledge, as well as to perfect sanitary administration. Its officers and employees have carried on regular, systematic researches in various lines. The researches in the prevalence and prevention of rural typhoid fever have been particularly complete, and the results have been published in various scientific journals.

By the means enumerated above and many others, which cannot be discussed in detail within the compass of this article, the board has sought to bring to the people of this State the fruits of scientific knowledge for the prevention of disease in the most effective manner possible. That its work has been recognized and approved by the people is best witnessed by the growing interest in public health throughout the State.

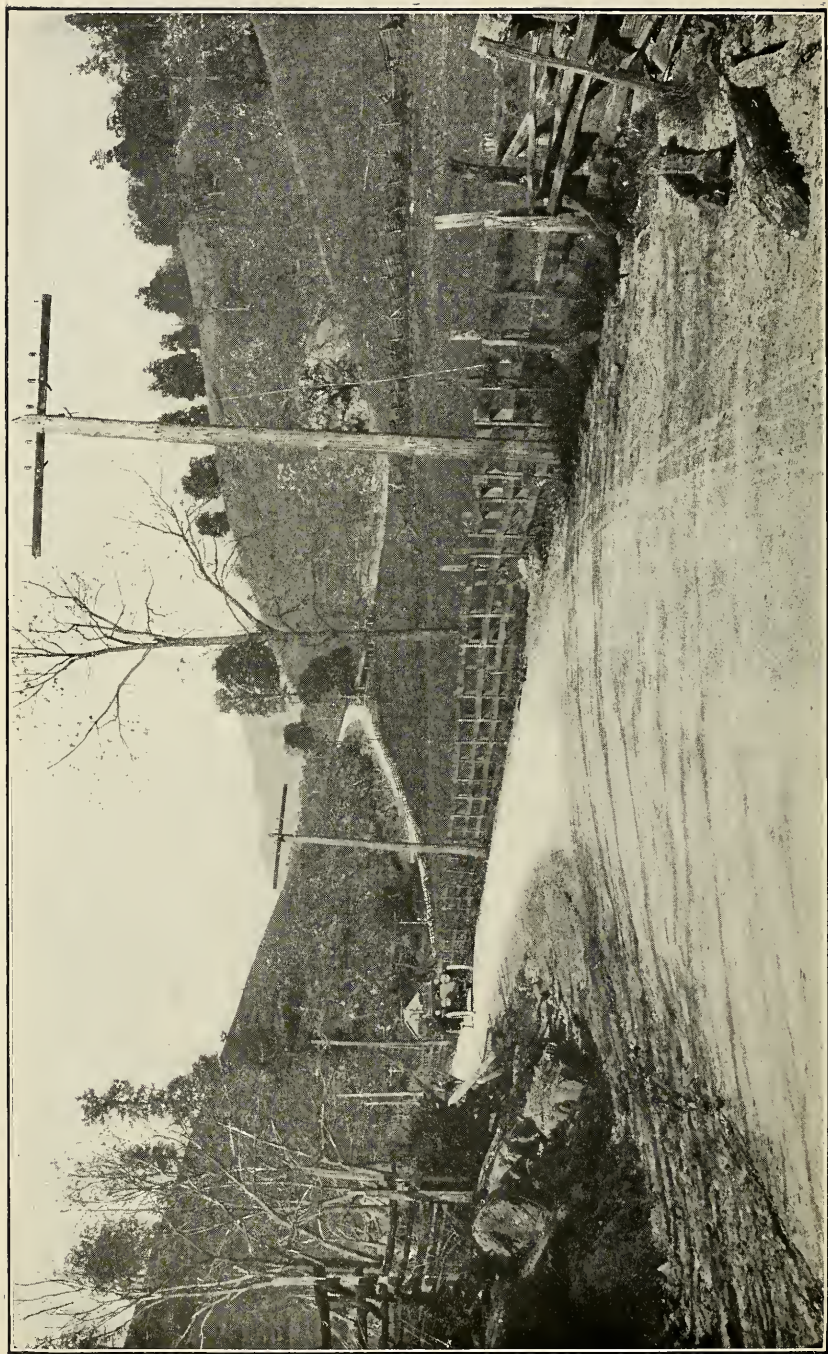
The State Highway Department

G. P. COLEMAN, *Highway Commissioner.*



URING the twelve months beginning October, 1913, and ending October, 1914, the Highway Commission worked in ninety-six of the hundred counties of the State. In that time the forces of the State and counties were employed on 403 different pieces of road construction, consisting of 855 miles of road of all classes. In addition to this, we have had under contract, in the same period, 91 bridges, making a total of 484 pieces of work supervised by the engineers of the department. We have 30 convict camps at work in as many different counties, representing approximately 1,100 convicts from the State penitentiary, and between 500 and 600 prisoners from the county and city jails, making a total from all sources of from 1,600 to 1,700 prisoners who are employed by the State on road work. This labor cost the State, to clothe, feed, guard and otherwise provide for during the next year, approximately 53 cents per ten-hour working day. In the other sixty-odd counties of the State we have been working under State money aid and county and district bond issue laws. For this purpose, that is, State money aid, the State appropriated \$185,000 from the general treasury, and in addition the automobile tax, which last year amounted to \$116,000, this money to be distributed to counties which could not receive State aid in convict labor. Last year we expended on road and bridge work throughout the State approximately \$1,767,010.

Since the organization of this department, the State has appropriated for road improvement in the various counties of the State under the convict road law and the State money aid law \$2,316,000. To this must be added the bonds issued by the various counties of the State, amounting to \$6,675,100, making a total fund for road and bridge purposes of \$8,991,100. During this time we have constructed 2,900 miles of surfaced roads, costing a little over \$7,000,000. The following mileage table will show more clearly than anything else the progress of road improvement since the organization of this department. You will note from this table that during the first two years of the department we constructed a total



Virginia is building more good roads each year all over the State.

of only 24 miles, and during the last year we constructed 855 miles, certainly a most remarkable increase during a period of seven years:

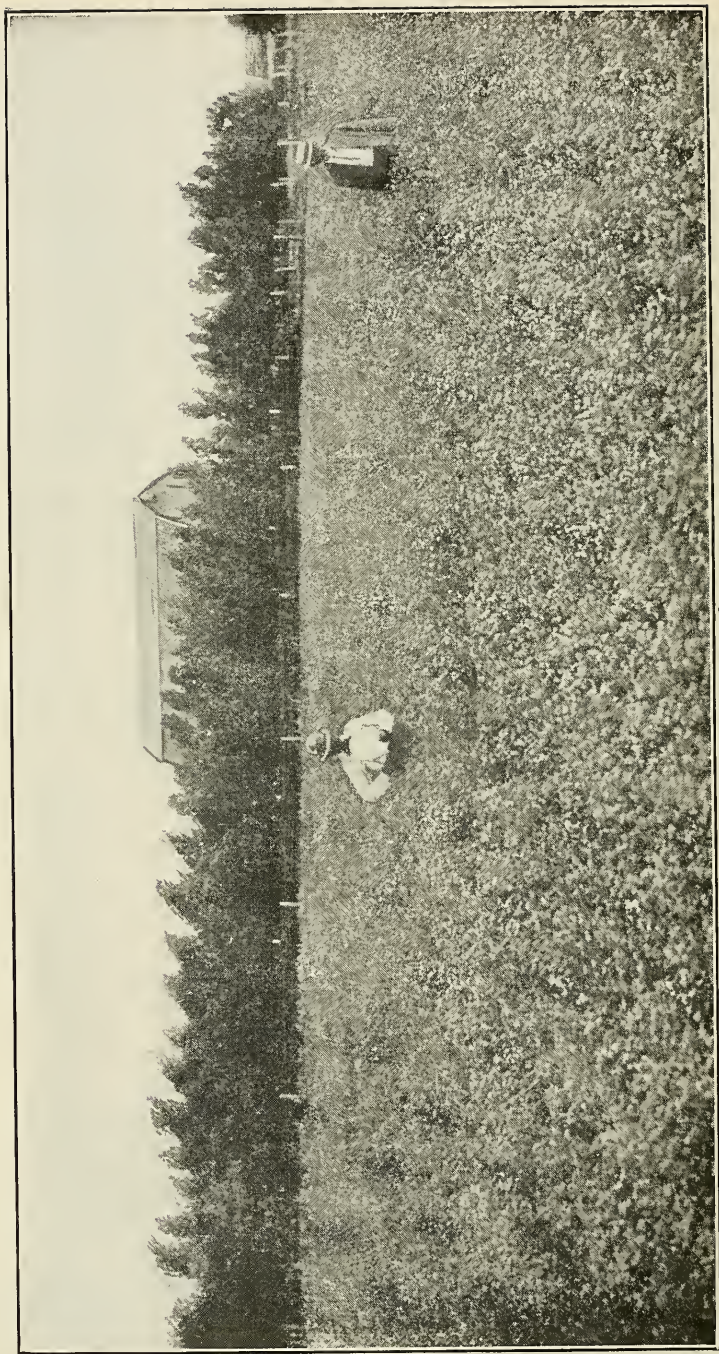
1906-07.....	24 miles
1908.....	52 miles
1909.....	137 miles
1910.....	290 miles
1911.....	396 miles
1912.....	543 miles
1913.....	619 miles
1914.....	855 miles

In addition to this, between 300 and 350 bridges of all classes have been constructed.

The work already done by Virginia in the improvement of her roads has added very materially to the comfort of her citizens and to the value of her property, and that the State intends to carry on the work is evidenced by the fact that the funds for the year 1915 amount to approximately \$2,000,000.

Population of Principal Virginia Cities.

Richmond	153,000
Norfolk	85,005
Roanoke	41,000
Portsmouth	37,569
Lynchburg	35,000
Petersburg	28,000
Newport News	25,000
Danville	20,210
Alexandria	17,000
Staunton	12,000
Suffolk	10,500
Charlottesville	13,700
Bristol	20,000
Fredericksburg	7,000
Winchester	7,246
Clifton Forge	7,000
Harrisonburg	5,000
Pulaski	6,000
Covington	6,000
Radford	5,000
South Boston	5,000
Salem	4,515
Farmville	4,000



The Alfalfa hides half of a six foot man.

One Hundred Counties in Virginia



THE State of Virginia has 100 counties, from the Atlantic ocean on the east, the historic Potomac river on the north and extending westward 450 miles to the Cumberland mountains.

All of these counties are imbued with a progressive spirit. Better schools and more buildings are being erected. Improvement in public roads is advancing rapidly. More manufacturing plants of many kinds are in operation. Virginia is growing rapidly in manufacturing industries. The homeseeker or investor can find what he wants in Virginia, if he will take a look around through the State. Following is a brief description of each one of the one hundred counties, and in the back of this Hand Book is a map showing the location of all the cities and counties.

ACCOMAC

This county is situated in what is known as the "Eastern Shore" section of Virginia, eighty miles east of Richmond, sixty miles from Norfolk, via railroad and steamer. It is about forty miles long, with an average width of ten miles, and has an area of four hundred and seventy-eight square miles.

Population, census of 1910, 36,650, an increase of 4,080 since census of 1900, and this county is among the best of the Virginia counties in almost everything that goes to make up a great and thriving rural community.

Its natural advantages are equalled by few and surpassed by none. It has a delightful climate, neither extreme of heat or cold, the thermometer rarely ever reaching ninety-four degrees in summer, or falling as low as ten above zero in winter. Delightful sea breezes sweep over the land almost every day in summer. With the Atlantic ocean on one side and the Chesapeake bay on the other, the air is cooled in summer and warmed in winter by those bodies of water.

The surface of the county is smooth, even, and almost level, drained by Pocomoke river and a number of small creeks and inlets. Soil, light loam, red clay subsoil, easily tilled, warm and productive.

Farm products are sweet and Irish potatoes, corn, wheat, oats, vegetables, etc. There is no county in the United States that produces as many sweet potatoes, nor as fine, as Accomac, it yielding fully five per cent. of the whole of that crop made in this country. The money value is enormous.

Trucking is the leading farm industry. Besides the millions of bushels of potatoes sold annually, are abundant crops of onions, garden peas, snaps, cabbage, kale, etc.

The growth of large and small fruits in constantly increasing acreage bids fair to make this an important and profitable industry. Apples, peaches, blackberries and strawberries are the principal fruits cultivated, but all fruits common to the temperate zone thrive well.

The fish and oyster industry is probably more valuable and extensive than in any other county of the State.

This county has been termed the "Hunter's Paradise." Game is plentiful, both in winter and summer, on land and on water. The fields abound with partridges, the woods and meadows with snipe, woodcock, rabbits, squirrels, raccoons, foxes and opossums; the rivers, creeks and bays with wild geese, brant ducks, curlew, plover and the sage hen.

Stock and grazing facilities are very good. Pasturage is good and abundant on the ocean and bay sides of the county.

About sixty-five per cent. of land is in cultivation, balance in timber, consisting of oak, pine, chestnut, beech, gum and holly, of which the oak and pine are most abundant and valuable, but are being cut rapidly.

Manufactories consist of lumber mills, barrel factories, flour and corn mills, carriage, cart and wagon factories.

Railroad transportation is excellent, no farm being more than six miles from a railroad.

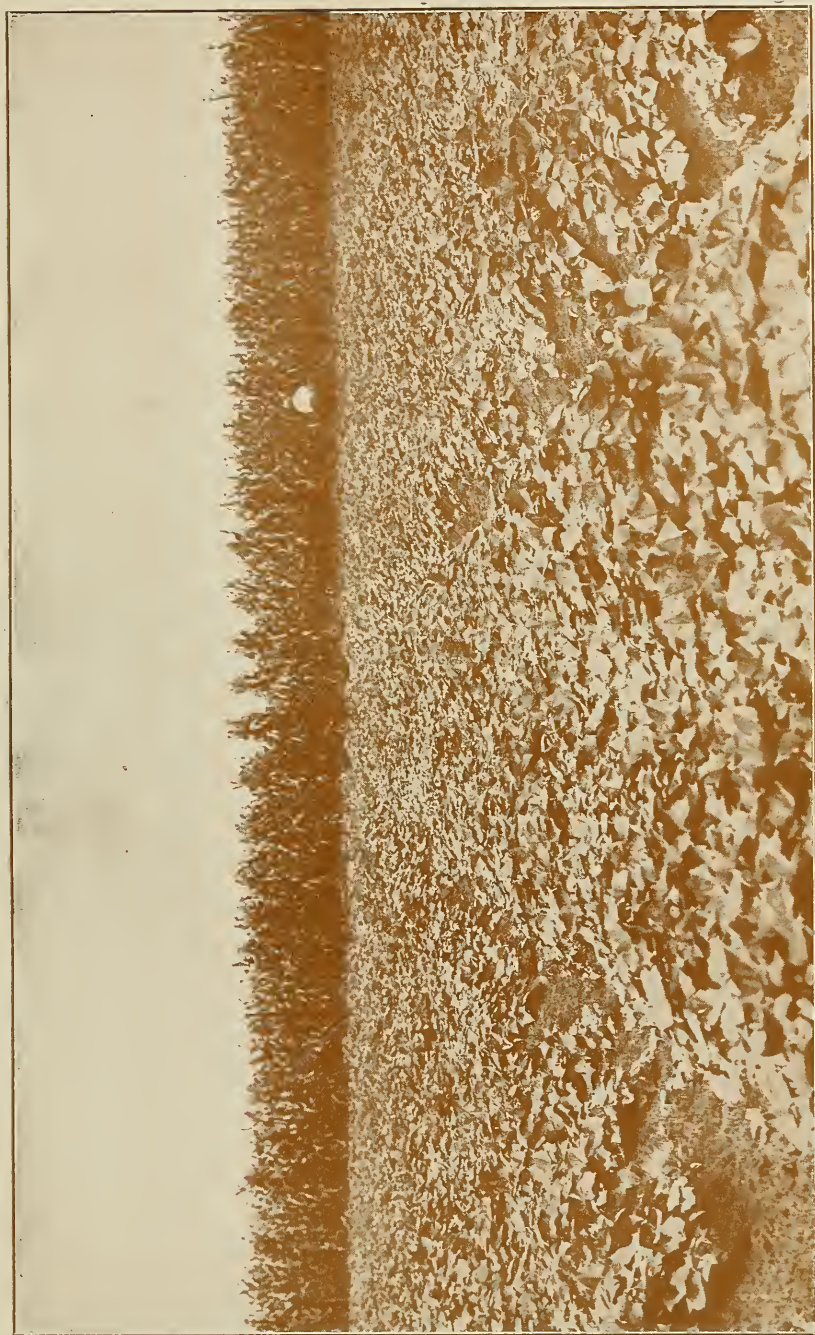


One county in Virginia grew 12,000 acres in sweet potatoes, being five per cent. of the sweet potato crop of the United States.

Water transportation cannot be surpassed, steamers and sail vessels on all sides. County is indented on east and west by numerous sounds, inlets and smaller water courses navigable nearly their entire length, and furnishing means of transportation to the markets of the large cities of the North and East, being within eight hours of Philadelphia and Baltimore and ten hours of New York.

Educational advantages are very good—two good academies, several public high schools, and one hundred and fifty primary schools.

Telephone service good throughout the county, every hamlet connected.



Tidewater Virginia can't be beat for trucks and corn. Both can be grown in the same year on the same land.

Churches and mail facilities very desirable, many of the leading denominations represented, and churches numerous and convenient. Mail facilities excellent.

Water in upland very good; in lowlands indifferent, unless artesian wells are resorted to; good flows can be had at seventy-five or one hundred feet in depth.

Health unsurpassed in eastern United States.

Financial condition of the county is excellent; but little bonded debt, and taxation very moderate.

Accomac, a pretty village with an historical courthouse, is the county seat. Its records are very old and interesting.

This county is one of the big counties of Virginia, and one of the oldest. It was carved out of Goochland in 1744,

ALBEMARLE

and then embraced the large territory now included in Albemarle, Amherst, Fluvanna, Nelson, and portions of Appomattox, all of these having been formed from it

since. It is now fifth in area of the one hundred Virginia counties, and contains 755 square miles, and a population of 29,871, exclusive of the city of Charlottesville. Its altitude is 485 feet.

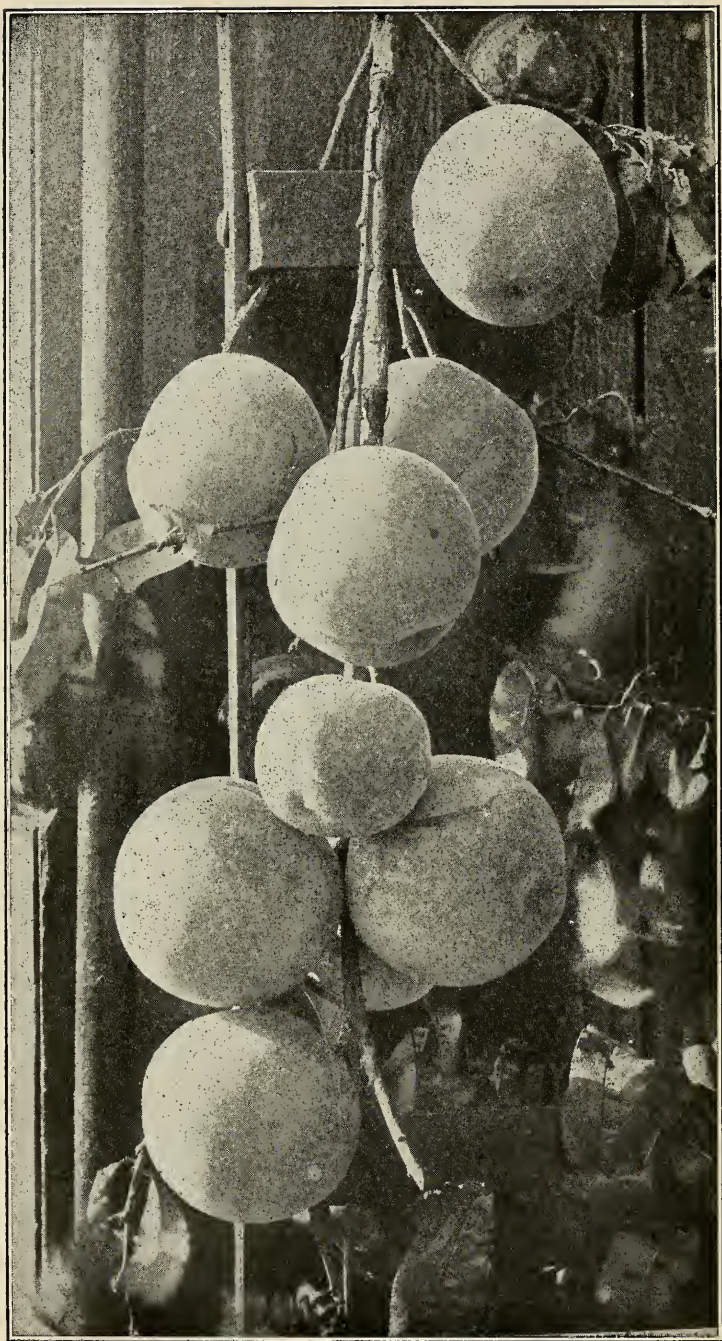
Albemarle has a most favorable location as to climate and soil, being geographically near the center of the State, with its western portion in the Blue Ridge region and its eastern in the Piedmont, reaching into Midland Virginia. Its extensive area, being at its greatest length about forty miles, and greatest width nearly thirty, gives scope for a diversity of soil and some difference in temperature. In the eastern section the soil is dark, rich red clay, famous for wheat, which has for generations been characterized as the red wheat lands of Albemarle. Other paying products of the soil are corn, grass, oats, all of which yield abundantly under the fine tillage, which generally prevails in this county; the apples, peaches, pears and grapes are remarkably fine. In fact, the foothills and slopes of the Blue Ridge, where the soil is lighter and grayish, are the natural home of the apple, which reaches its greatest perfection here. The Albemarle pippin, of rare flavor and excellent keeping qualities, which finds a most remunerative market abroad, is grown in abundance. Some of the most profitable peach orchards in Virginia are to be found in this county, and in some places almost cover the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge from base to summit, the warm exposure favoring a size and flavor that makes the Albemarle peach popular in every market it reaches, Staunton, Charlottesville, Lynchburg, and Washington competing vigorously for the trade, which becomes active early in the season.

Nowhere in Virginia does grape culture and wine production receive more attention than in this favored region, where the grape grows to a high degree of perfection, and large fruitful vineyards are seen on every hand, furnishing through a long season large shipments to convenient city markets, to say nothing of the local demand by town, village and rail-car fruit vendors.

In as good a grass section as this county is, it is natural that much attention should be paid to stock raising. Many fine cattle find their way to market from the grass fields of Albemarle. As to horses, the finest blooded animals are raised, and bring the best prices.

And sheep raising is a profitable industry, the long woollen breeds doing especially well on the luxuriant grasses of the Piedmont lands, and the finer wool breeds on the more mountainous, in the northern part of this county.

Few sections have better railroad opportunities, or better avail themselves of them. The Chesapeake and Ohio from west to east, straight through the county, the Southern from north to south, intersecting the



The Virginia peach cannot be excelled in quality.

former at Charlottesville, and the James river division of the Chesapeake and Ohio running along the southern border, afford, by their competing lines, cheapest access for freight and passenger traffic in every available market.

Among the developments, those of the mineral resources of Albemarle have not lagged. There are deposits of soapstone, iron, graphite, slate, etc. Large soapstone works have been erected at Alberene, reached by a short branch of the Southern railroad, and the output in bathtubs, house and kitchen utensils, etc., has developed an extensive industry very useful to the county.

The Albemarle Slate Company works profitably a deposit of slate from which the best pencils known to the trade on account of absolute freedom from grit, are claimed to be made.

The Miller School—one of the greatest manual labor institutions in the country, with ample endowments—Pantops Academy, and the historical University of Virginia, furnish rare educational advantages.

Crozet, on the main line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, in Albemarle county, is located in the center of one of the most famous fruit districts in the country, that of the famous Albemarle pippin, and is one of the largest fruit shipping points in the State; many thousands of barrels of apples have been shipped to all parts of the world. The neighboring mountains and valleys are well adapted to the growing of peaches, apples, strawberries, cherries and other fruits, and these products have taken the grand prizes at the Chicago, St. Louis, Buffalo and Jamestown Expositions. The peaches grown here are fully the equal of the Georgia peach, and the October peach does not come in competition with other Southern peaches, ripening as it does after the others are gone.

ALEXANDRIA This county embraces one of the earliest settled portions of the State. As early as 1669 a colonial patent was laid on most of the land now included in the county, and settlements made a few years after. It was originally a part of Fairfax county, during which time it was ceded to the General Government, and later (in 1846) was receded to Virginia, made a separate county, and named after its principal city, Alexandria. This county has ever been intimately associated with the name of General Washington, the seat of much of his early life and operations, and its location has rendered it prominent in many of the thrilling scenes of that day, and later. It is ten miles long and averages two and one-half miles in width; located in the northeast part of the State, ninety miles north of Richmond.

The roads of the county are among the best in northern Virginia, and are constantly being improved.

The climate is delightful; in summer, temperate; in winter, changeable, but not severe.

Excellent markets are afforded by the cities of Alexandria, Washington, Georgetown, and a rapidly increasing non-productive population in the various towns of the county. The transportation facilities bring the producer of the county into close connection with the markets of the East and West, and many products of fruits, vegetables, poultry, and flowers are shipped in large quantities to these cities and bring fine returns to the producers. No section affords better facilities for marketing anything that can be produced by the fruit grower, the poultryman, the dairyman, the trucker and the florist.

The area of the county is the smallest in the State, having thirty-two square miles—20,480 acres. Average size farm, sixty-five acres—in 1900—at present much less.

Population of county, census of 1910, 10,231; numerous villages,

with handsome homes, have sprung up like magic along the electric roads, with from 50 to 1,000 inhabitants, notably Clarendon, Ballston, Mt. Ida, and Rosemont, the first two in the center and the last in the southern end of the county. An expenditure of over \$100,000 has been made for improvements at Rosemont, which is as fine a subdivision as can be found anywhere.

The Potomac railroad yards, belonging to the Washington-Southern, are among the largest classification yards in the country, and cover over 1,000 acres, with a river frontage of about two miles, costing up to the present time over \$4,000,000, and giving employment to about 600 people.

Manufactures are bricks (the yards supplying Washington with 80,000,000 annually), abattoir, pork packing, brewery, large railroad and electric shops and yards, milling, lumber, sash, doors, and blinds, glass and fertilizers, canning, cotton seed oil, lard, etc.

This does not include those of Alexandria City, which consists of brick, shoes, overalls, boxes, glass and woodwork, barytes mills, knitting mills and machine shops, canning works and fertilizers, brooms, baskets, electrical supplies, brewery, bottling soft drinks, shipyards, aprons, silk, leather, drugs, factories.

The county has a national bank, and the advantages of the banks of Alexandria and Washington afford ample financial facilities for all industries.

Soil fertile, especially the bottom along the streams (which are numerous), is well adapted to fruit, grain and garden truck.

It is watered and drained by the Potomac and its tributaries, of which Hunting creek, the southern boundary of Alexandria city, is worthy of special mention, as a beautiful body of water fifteen or twenty feet in depth, and a safe harbor for vessels.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, and potatoes, the latter, both sweet and Irish, being a very important and profitable crop to the farmer.

Fruits and vegetables of all varieties do well, and are raised in great abundance. There is no section of the State more highly favored as to a market for trucking, dairy and poultry products, and these constitute an important and profitable industry to the county.

The waters abound in water fowl and fish of choice variety, such as bass, rock, shad and herring.

There is considerable timber, such as white and red oak, chestnut and chestnut oak, poplar, maple, cedar, pine and locust.

Water power consists of Great and Little Falls of Potomac, the finest in the State.

Minerals and mineral waters are, of the former, brownstone, soapstone and clay for brickmaking; of the latter, sulphur and iron.

Water, steam and electric transportation place this county in quick, convenient and extensive communication with all sections of the country. With the Potomac river as an important water highway, and the railroads represented by the Baltimore and Ohio, Southern, Chesapeake and Ohio, Pennsylvania, Seaboard, and Atlantic Coast Line, besides electric lines connecting with Mt. Vernon, Falls Church, Great Falls and Naricks, no section of Virginia has better transportation facilities.

Telephone service is good, represented by the Southern Bell and Home.

Educational advantages consist of a large number of excellent public and private schools.

Churches, mail facilities, water, health and financial conditions reported first class.

Arlington, famous as having been the home of the Custis and Lee families, in this county, a few miles above Alexandria. It was pur-

chased by the National Government, and a portion of it appropriated to a National cemetery.

Upon this historic place are also located Fort Myer, where a large force of United States troops are stationed, and the National Experiment station.

Three bridges connect the county with Washington—the chain bridge, the aqueduct bridge, and the highway bridge—the latter costing \$1,000,000.

Large sales of unimproved land were made during December, 1909, ranging in price from \$300 to \$1,000 per acre, and options were taken upon a great portion of the remaining large acreage at even higher prices.

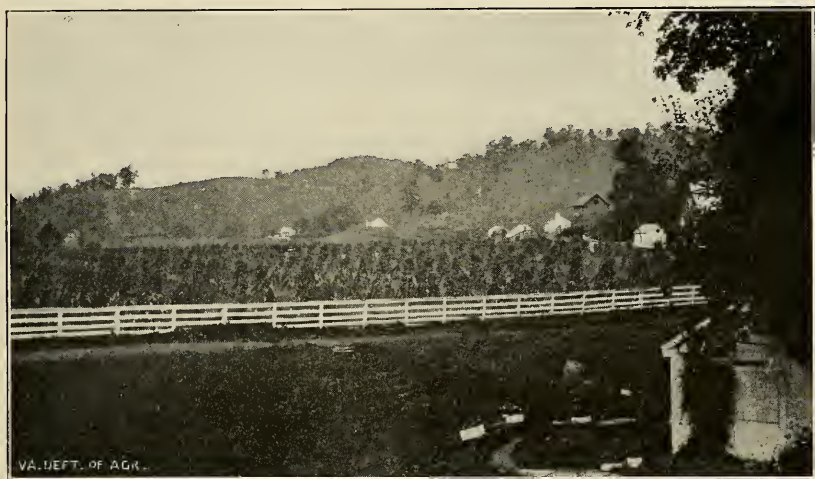
This county was formed in 1822 from Bath, Botetourt and Monroe. It is situated in the western part of the State, 124 miles west of Richmond, is 26 miles long, with a mean breadth of 20 miles—an area of 452 square miles. Altitude 1,295 feet.

ALLEGHANY

Population of the county, census of 1910, is 14,173.

Climate very healthful and invigorating, and in summer delightful.

Soil, light clay loam, very productive, especially on water courses; watered and drained by the Jackson and Cow Pasture rivers, and other small streams, notably Potts and Dunlap creeks, which also furnish very



One hundred and fifteen bushels of corn per acre.

superior water power. The mountains contain immense quantities of valuable timber, such as oak, hickory, poplar, pine, ash and chestnut, large quantities of which are sawed and exported.

The iron and ore deposits of this county are very extensive and valuable, and are attracting the attention of capitalists, who have invested largely in ore lands and in the erection of furnaces; also granite and cement limestone have been developed, and hydraulic cement manufactured.

Game of all kinds is abundant, offering an inviting field for sportsmen.

Farm products are corn, oats, wheat, fruit and dairying. Stock raising is also a very valuable and important industry. This county is well supplied with churches, schools, newspapers, and railroads, the Ches-

peake and Ohio railroad traversing the county, connecting with the Warm Springs branch of the Chesapeake and Ohio at Covington, in this county.

No county in the State, perhaps, can boast of more thrifty growing towns in the last decade, notably Covington, Clifton Forge, and Low Moor.

Low Moor, on the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, is a place of considerable importance. The Low Moor Iron Furnace is located here, producing large quantities of iron of superior quality, and giving employment to a large number of people.

AMELIA This county, formed from Prince George in 1734, located in the southeast central portion of the State on the south bank of the Appomattox river, twenty-seven miles southwest of Richmond, is thirty miles long and about ten miles in width; area, 355 square miles; its altitude is 361 feet.

Surface is undulating, lands productive. Soil, chocolate, red clay, and gray loam, with clay subsoil, the latter readily improved, and especially adapted to wheat, corn, oats and tobacco, which are the principal farm products—especially tobacco, of which about 2,000,000 pounds of fine quality is produced annually. Potatoes, other vegetables, fruits, and dairy products are also important and profitable industries.

The climate is temperate; winter short and mild; summer pleasant, without extremes of heat. This county is well watered with freestone springs, and wells are to be had at an average depth of thirty feet, besides numerous springs and valuable mineral properties. Climate is healthful, churches and public schools numerous and convenient. It is drained and watered by the Appomattox river and its tributaries. The Appomattox, in the northern portion of the county, is open for navigation to Petersburg.

The Southern railway passes through the center of the county, and the Norfolk and Western near the southeastern border.

AMHERST This county, a daughter of Albemarle, was made a separate county in 1761. James river skirts its whole southeast and southwest boundary for fifty miles, furnishing, with Pedlar and Buffalo rivers, an extent of broad and fertile bottom lands of which few counties in the State can boast. The altitude is 629 feet. The county has a length of twenty-two miles, and a mean width of nineteen, while its area is 464 square miles, and its population, by the census of 1910, 18,932. The proportion of colored inhabitants has decreased considerably in the last few years, and the white farmers are depending largely more on their own labor, which is more reliable and efficient.

The crops raised are principally tobacco, corn, wheat, while the soil and climate are well adapted to oats and grass, but tobacco may be regarded as the principal money crop, and is of fine weight and texture, the farmers realizing at this time good prices, higher than of late years. The red lands along the valley of the Blue Ridge and Tobacco Row mountains are very fine, easily cultivated and retentive of farm manures, producing finely clover, timothy, and orchard grass, following tobacco and wheat.

While Amherst is among the leading agricultural counties in the State, it is rapidly advancing to the front as a fruit section, yielding that popular variety, the winesap, abundantly, and the celebrated Albemarle pippin succeeds admirably. The eastern slopes of the mountains are favorable to the culture of grapes, the vine flourishing and yielding kindly to proper culture.

Timber is oak, hickory, pine, walnut, chestnut, and locust, principally, much of the best of it being converted profitably into lumber.

Amherst several years ago took the lead in improved roads under the

State plan, and has built and completed sixty miles of the best macadam and sand-clay roads in the State, leading from Lynchburg through the county in several directions.

The county contains immense and valuable outputs of minerals, such as magnetic and specular iron, well suited for the manufacture of steel by the Bessemer process.

The celebrated soapstone vein through Albemarle and Nelson extends through Amherst, and is valuable, lying between the Southern and Chesapeake and Ohio railways, about five miles from each.

There is considerable grazing of cattle on the indigenous grass of the mountains by stockmen who buy elsewhere and bring them to this section, where they can be cheaply kept. This is quite a business in Amherst.

Church and school privileges are not neglected. In fact, one of the finest equipped female seminaries in the South, known as Sweet Briar Institute, is located on a grand old estate two miles from Amherst courthouse and twelve from Lynchburg, on the Southern railroad. It is the result of an endowment of \$800,000 in money and land, and was opened in the fall of 1906, and has brilliant prospects of success.

Amherst, the county seat, is a pleasant little town on the Southern railway, fourteen miles from Lynchburg. It has two weekly papers, a bank, six stores and some very desirable family residences.

This historic county was formed in 1845 from the neighboring counties of Buckingham, Campbell, Prince Edward and Charlotte. It is about sixty-five miles air-

APPOMATTOX

line, 100 miles by rail, west from Richmond; twenty-six miles long and eighteen miles wide, with an area of 342 square miles, and a population, by the last United States census, of 8,904. The county is well watered by the James river, forming its northwestern boundary, and its tributaries; by the Appomattox and its tributaries, and by some of the tributaries of Staunton river. Its average altitude is 825 feet.

The surface of the county is generally rolling, and even hilly in many portions, though there is a large proportion of bottom land along the rivers and creeks, which water the county well and furnish ample water power that is utilized to a considerable extent by several good grist and sawmills, though there is much of the finest power undeveloped as yet, and the county as a whole is the first level county east of the Blue Ridge mountains.

The soil is varied, consisting largely of a stiff red clay, easily improved, responding well to the use of fertilizers and prudent cultivation, similar in character to the famous red wheat lands of Albemarle, and producing that grain well, when properly treated. There is also much gray, light and friable slate soil, and the bottoms are rich and productive.

Tobacco is the principal crop, and grass and hay are very profitable; \$146 net for one acre of white Burley tobacco; ninety-one bushels of shelled corn to the acre, and three tons of hay to the acre, weighed and measured. Stock, fruit and vegetables do well here.

Oak, hickory, walnut, chestnut, and maple timber are abundant and are being profitably worked.

The educational advantages and religious facilities are ample, being furnished by a number of good schools and prosperous churches.

Appomattox, the county seat, on the Norfolk and Western railroad, about twenty-five miles from Lynchburg and thirty-five miles from Farmville, is a prosperous new town, with fine new courthouse, jail and offices, two live newspapers, bank, three good hotels, ten stores and handsome residences. Lawyers, physicians, real estate agents, with local and long

distance telephone connection, manufacturing mill, sawmill, a drug store, and tobacco warehouses.

A handsome agricultural college has just been completed at a cost of \$20,000—free tuition.

Three miles northeast is Old Appomattox Courthouse, known locally as "The Surrender Ground," where General R. E. Lee surrendered April 9, 1865, the depleted remnant of the Confederate army, to the overwhelming Federal forces under General Grant, thus making this one of the most famous spots in the country, ranking with Yorktown, where Cornwallis surrendered to Washington 19th October, 1781.

The Federal authorities have added greatly to the attractiveness of the "Surrender Ground," which embraces several hundred acres, by plac-



No State produces finer clover hay than Virginia.

ing enduring metal tablets at various notable points, such as Lee's headquarters, Grant's headquarters, the traditional apple tree, the place where the old McLean house, in which the surrender took place, stood, now a ruin as well as most of the houses in the old village. The Confederates have also placed on the grounds two handsome monuments, one by Virginians, the other by North Carolinians, and an effort is being made to have Congress establish a National Park here, which will, perhaps, ultimately be accomplished.

This county was formed from Orange in 1738, and ranks among the first of the counties in the great Shenandoah valley and of the State in importance and first in area. It is situated near the head of the Shenandoah valley, in the southwestern part of the State, being thirty-five miles long and thirty miles wide, containing an area of 1,012 square miles. Average size farms, 175 acres. The aggregate value of its real

AUGUSTA



VA. DEPT. OF AGR.

Luxurious corn crops are grown in Virginia. 100 bushels per acre are frequently grown on large acreage.

estate exceeds any other county in the State. Altitude 1,380 feet, at Staunton.

The eastern and western sections of the county are uneven and mountainous, central portion undulating. The lands are varied in character, very fertile and productive, yielding large crops of corn, oats, wheat, rye and the grasses—natural and cultivated. The county ranks at the head of the list of counties of the State in the production of wheat, hay and oats, yielding over one-half million bushels of wheat and twenty-five thousand tons of hay. It is also noted for the number and superior quality of its flouring mills, one of which has a capacity of 500 barrels per day.

Stock raising is also one of its most profitable and important industries, its mountain ranges affording excellent pasturage, and its abundant hay crop available for winter feed.

Under such favorable conditions this county has become noted for its fine horses, cattle and sheep, and its abundance of dairy products.

Minerals are numerous, consisting of iron, manganese, coal, kaolin, slate, marble and limestone, much of which has been developed. The Crimora Manganese Mines Co. have sold over \$1,000,000 of their output, and are working to advantage. Some of the most noted natural curiosities of the State are to be found in this county, such as Weyers Cave of Fountains, the Cyclopean Towers or Natural Chimneys, and Elliott Knob of the North mountains, 4,437 feet high, ranks among the highest points in Virginia. Churches and schools are of unusual number and convenience. No section in the State is more highly favored in this respect. The population of the county was, by the census of 1910, 32,445.

The county is well supplied with railroads. The Valley pike, a well-kept macadam road between Staunton and Winchester, ninety miles, is equal to any road in Virginia. Staunton, the county seat, is the most important city of the Shenandoah valley, and has the distinction of being the birthplace of President Woodrow Wilson. Here is also located the Western State Hospital for the Insane and The Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind, where the children are given a good education as well as in the arts.

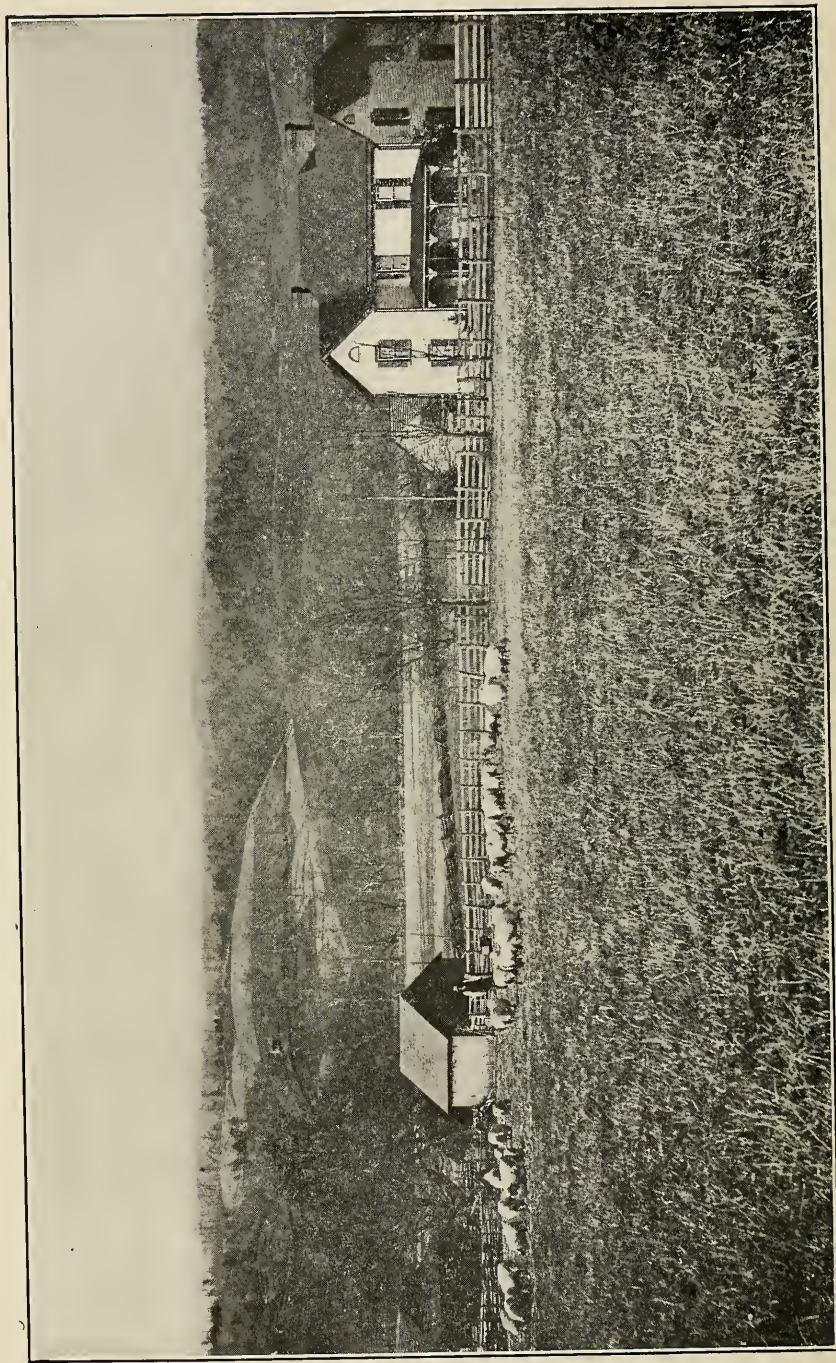
Waynesboro, the largest town, is an important business center for one of the richest sections of the county, having several excellent banks, several prosperous manufactories, a large flouring mill and some of the largest stores in the county. It has large and prosperous Presbyterain, Baptist and Methodist churches, and the best of schools, embracing the Fishburne Military Academy, the Valley Female Seminary and a well-conducted graded public school. Basic City, Craigsville, Fordwick, the seat of the large Portland Cement Works; Greenville, Middlebrook, Mt. Solon, Mt. Meridian, Mt. Sidney, Stuart's Draft, and others, interspersed among the rich and prosperous sections of the county. These towns are all well provided with telephones—in fact, no county in the State has a better telephone system, which reaches every village and farming community in the county.

This county has in recent years planted many fruit trees and has some of the best orchards in the State.

BATH

This county, located on the western border of the State, 120 miles northwest of Richmond, was organized in 1790 from parts of Augusta, Botetourt, and Greenbrier counties; eleven hours by Chesapeake and Ohio railroad from Cincinnati, six and one-half hours by rail from Washington, D. C., and Richmond, Va. Its mean altitude is 2,195 feet.

Its people are originally Scotch-Irish, having come from Pennsylvania to this section, beginning about 1740. Contains a population, by census 1910, of 6,538. Area of county, 548 square miles.



A peaceful and profitable country home.

A portion of the county is mountainous; the balance rich bottom lands, very fertile, though small in area, well watered by its numerous springs and Cow Pasture and Jackson rivers.

The climate and scenery are unsurpassed. Reference to the Weather Bureau reports of the United States show this county to possess a very equable temperature of neither very great extremes of heat or cold, and ample rainfall, well distributed.

The most widely known are Warm Springs, the county seat; the Hot Springs, five miles south of the Warm Springs; Healing Springs, eight miles south of Warm Springs; Bath Alum, five miles east of the Warm Springs; Millboro Springs, twelve miles east of the Warm Springs and two miles distant from Millboro depot; Walla-Watoola, one mile south of Millboro Springs, and Bolar Springs, seventeen miles north of Warm Springs. Great numbers of visitors resort to these springs in the summer time and to the Virginia Hot Springs all the year round, bringing into the county and distributing much ready money for supplies.

The industries of the county are mainly farming, grazing, tanbark and lumber business. Principal products are hay, corn, wheat and oats.

Fruit culture is also important and profitable in this county, embracing apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, grapes and berries, all of which produce fine crops and find a ready home market at good prices. Large apple and peach orchards abound of increasing size and number.

Grazing facilities are unexcelled. Most of the lands take naturally to grass; all you have to do in most sections to obtain a sod is to cut off the timber, let in the sunshine, and the grasses spring up without further attention; and in the woods there is a rich growth of wild grasses and other wild growth, on which cattle and sheep do well for six months in the year. When they come from the mountain ranges, as they are called, without any cost other than salting them, they are fat and ready for the markets.

Washington, Richmond, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, in a few hours' run, are excellent markets for the sale of stock.

Timber is abundant, except on the main line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, where it has been culled out. There are large and valuable bodies of pine, oak, poplar and hickory timber, and some walnut, locust and cherry; scarcely a section of the county but has one or more steam sawmills in operation, and some equipped with planing machinery.

BEDFORD

This county was formed in 1753 from Lunenburg, and lies at the eastern base of the Blue Ridge mountains, in the southwest central part of the State, 100 miles southwest of Richmond. It is one of the largest counties of the State, being forty miles long and about thirty miles wide, containing an area of 729 square miles. Its average altitude is 900 feet.

Surface is broken, and, in western portion, mountainous, but very productive, and well watered by springs, brooks and creeks, with Otter southwest borders.

river in center, and the James and Staunton rivers on northeast and

Climate is mild and healthful, attracting large numbers of visitors from the South, who spend their summers at the various hotels and summer boarding houses that are open each season for the accommodation of guests. This is one of the richest and most productive and thickly settled counties in the James river valley, containing a population, census of 1910, of 29,549.

The soil is red clay and light gray, or slate, producing abundant crops of wheat, corn, rye, oats and tobacco, average yield of which is about fifteen bushels of wheat, twenty-five bushels of corn, twenty bushels of rye, twenty-five bushels of oats, and 1,000 to 1,500 pounds

of tobacco per acre. The latter is probably the most profitable industry of the county. Fruit is also worthy of special mention, and this county may be very promptly classed as one of the five fruit counties of the State, the mountainous portions of which are especially adapted to fruit of all kinds, and in this section blue grass is indigenous, affording most excellent grazing facilities. The dairy interest is also of considerable importance and profit to this section.

Timber is extensive and valuable, embracing walnut, chestnut, hickory, pine, poplar, locust and oak.

The celebrated Peaks of Otter, noted for their sublime, picturesque scenery, are situated in this county, a few miles from Bedford City, the county seat. They have an altitude of 4,001 feet above sea level, and can be seen, under favorable conditions of atmosphere, from beyond Lynchburg, fifty-five miles distant.

Bedford City, the county seat, on the Norfolk and Western railroad, is located near the centre of the county, and surrounded by a beautiful picturesque section of country. It contains a number of tobacco factories, several warehouses, woolen and spoke factories, flouring and planing mills and machine shops, besides numerous churches, newspapers, schools—public and private, including the Randolph-Macon Academy—banks, water works, and plant for electric lights. Population by census of 1910, 2,416.

BLAND

This county was formed in 1861 from Wythe, Giles and Tazewell, and is located in southwestern part of the State, 195 miles southwest of Richmond. Population, census of 1910, 5,154.

It contains an area of 352 square miles. Surface is broken and mountainous to a considerable extent. Portions of the latter are very valuable for grazing purposes, and the valley lands are very rich.

Soil black loam and reddish clay, very productive and well adapted to the usual farm products of this section, such as corn, rye, oats, wheat, buckwheat, potatoes and the grasses, especially blue grass, which is indigenous to this section, and, in consequence, stock raising has become the most profitable industry of the county, especially cattle and sheep, large numbers of which are of fine quality and are shipped annually to the large markets, or sold to the dealers who come into the county to buy. This county is also well adapted to fruits of all kinds, that grow to great perfection.

The timbers of this county are walnut, poplar, pine, oak, ash, hemlock, sugar tree, hickory and beech, and abound in large quantities of exceptionally fine quality. This is destined to be a valuable industry in the county when reached by railroads, which would also develop the valuable mineral deposits of this section, consisting of iron, coal, lead, zinc, copper, manganese, slate, kaolin, ochre, barytes, and slate. Coal is also found and mined.

Mineral springs are numerous and of fine medicinal quality. Some have been improved and opened to summer visitors, notably Sharon Springs, which is a delightful resort 2,850 feet above sea level, with a climate unexcelled, dry and exhilarating, and an abundance of clear, pure water—limestone and freestone. No more healthful section of country is to be found, and it is an Eldorado for the sportsman, with its abundance of game and streams abounding with fish, embracing the noted mountain trout.

Schools and churches are numerous and convenient. Financial conditions are good, with a very flattering outlook for future progress and advancement.

Seddon, the county seat, located near the centre of the county, has

a flourishing mill, high school, newspaper, two churches. It is centrally and conveniently located, with good turnpike roads diverging north, south, east and west.

BOTETOURT

This county, named in honor of Lord Botetourt, Governor of the Colony in 1768, was formed in 1770 from Augusta, extending at the time of formation to the Mississippi river. Its present limits are forty-five miles long and eighteen miles wide, situated between the Blue Ridge and Alleghany mountains, in the western part of the State, 115 miles west of Richmond. Altitude, 1,250 feet. It contains a population, by census of 1910, of 17,727.

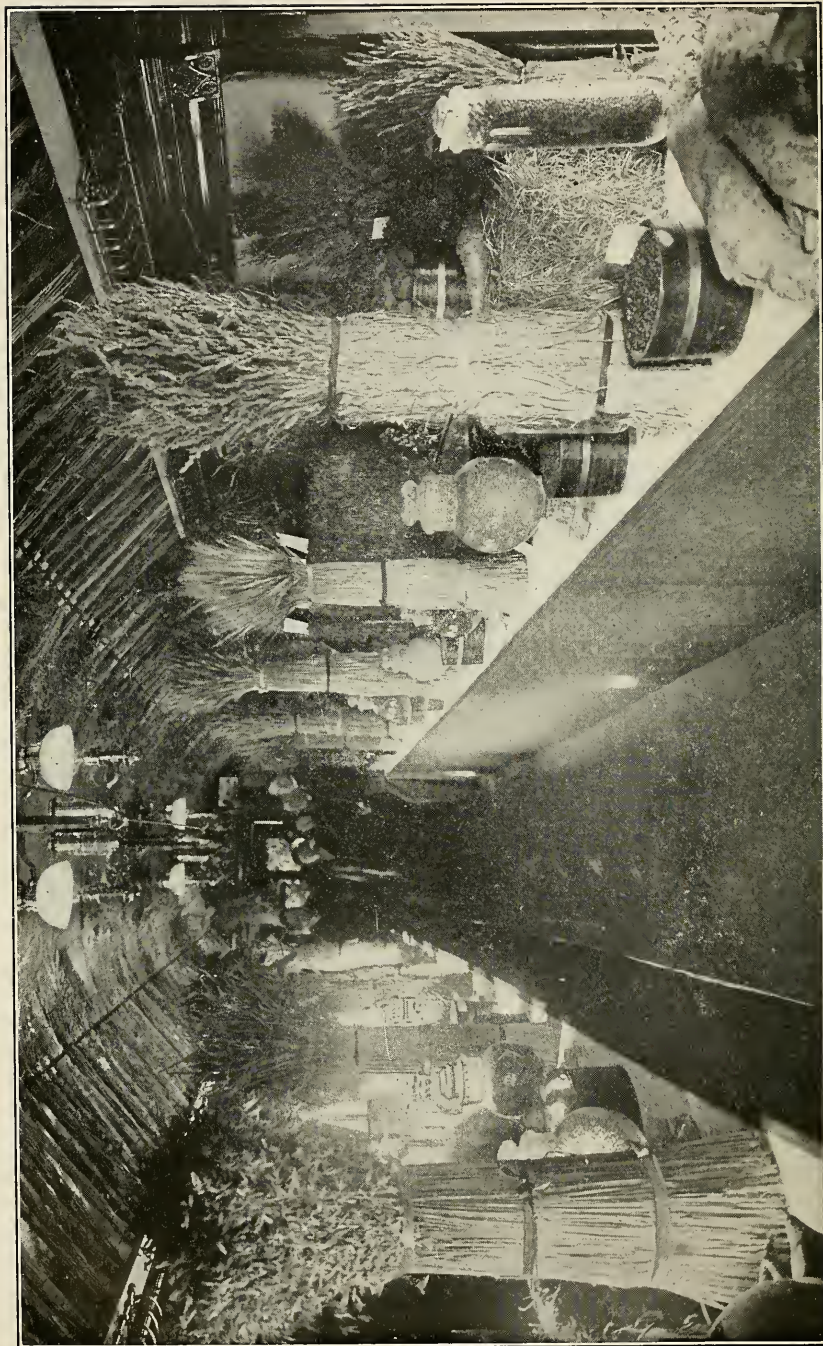
Area, 548 square miles; surface rolling, partly mountainous; central portion a beautiful valley, very fertile; soil loam, with clay subsoil, well adapted to the production of grain, grasses, tobacco, fruits, etc.; the mountain ranges affording excellent pasturage for horses, cattle and sheep, of which superior breeds are raised. The fine blue grass sod, to which the land runs naturally, renders dairying an important industry.



One county sold \$1,000,000 worth of canned products in one year.

Tobacco is also produced to some extent, and of superior quality, but fruit and vegetable culture, to which this county is especially adapted, is probably its most important and profitable industry, bringing to the county large revenues.

It is a notable fact that Botetourt has more canneries than any other county in the State, numbering about 175, and even stands near the head of the list in the United States in that industry, tomatoes being the chief product. So great was the demand for cans here, that



An inside view of the beautiful exhibit car of Virginia Agricultural Crops, that accompanied the Farmers' Institute train in this State last winter. Produced and installed by the Messrs. Bellwood.

in 1903 the Virginia Can Company organized in Buchanan—by Mr. O. C. Huffman, of Staunton, Virginia, its head ever since—which succeeded from the outset, made and sold 2,250,000 cans that year, the second year over 7,000,000, and in 1905 nearly 10,000,000 tin cans. This company sold in 1906, 13,000,000 cans; 1907, 16,000,000 cans; in 1908, 14,000,000; and in 1909, 11,000,000 cans. The cause of the falling off in 1908 and 1909 was due to the fact that the Old Dominion Can Company at Troutville (this county), was established; this company did not make very many cans in 1907, but succeeded very well the following years. This immense product of home enterprise goes in carload lots to North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, and other Southern States, and to the far West. A well-equipped box-making plant, which furnishes cases in which much of the output is shipped, has been recently added to the establishment, and the orders for this year indicate a larger business than ever before. Peaches, corn, apples and berries are also large products of the Botetourt canneries, the total amount of canned goods reaching the enormous figure of from 250,000 to 350,000 cases annually.

Railroads are the Chesapeake and Ohio and Norfolk and Western, with their branches, which extend through the length and breadth of the county, furnishing easy and ready access to all principal markets.

Rivers are the James and its numerous tributaries, also Cow Pasture and Jackson rivers, which afford superior water power.

Principal towns are Fincastle and Buchanan.

Fincastle, the county seat, has a population of 652, daily mails, telegraph and express communications, several churches and public schools, newspaper, bank, woolen mill, canning factory, foundry, planing mill, tannery, harness shops, machine shops, and spoke, stave and handle factory.

BRUNSWICK This county, bordering on North Carolina, and about fifty miles southwest of Richmond, is one of the leading agricultural counties in Virginia. It was Brunswick which took the first prize at the Jamestown Exposition for having the best county agricultural exhibit, and it was of this county that the present Governor of Virginia said, "that it produces a greater variety of crops than any other in the State."

The reasons that Brunswick stands foremost among her sister counties are numerous: Lands naturally rich, respond to improvements with wonderful celerity; the climate is ideal for agricultural purposes, the winters being cool and pleasant and the summers warm enough to mature crops, but not too hot to be uncomfortable, and lithia water abounds on every farm. All of these and other natural advantages, have attracted a population without equal for industry, thrift, morality and other qualities, which make the best, happiest and most independent rural life. Thus, with such citizenship, churches and schools have been erected within close reach of all, and every Sunday the word of God can be heard with no inconvenience, and the children attend the public schools without trouble. The lands are rolling, and a healthier community cannot be found anywhere.

Three railroads cross the county, and place the farmers in close and immediate touch with the leading markets of the world.

Lawrenceville, the county seat, is located in the centre of the county, and has a population of 2,500, and with its splendid stores, excellent banking facilities and market advantages, adds materially to the comfort, convenience and pleasure of agricultural life in the county.

The principal crops raised are dark and bright tobacco of the finest grades, cotton, peanuts, corn of unsurpassed quality, wheat, oats, alfalfa, and nearly every variety of grasses, fruits, vegetables of almost all kinds in delicious profusion, and live stock which fill the smoke houses and which would make dairying prosper, even as the "green bay tree."

The principal timbers of the county are pine, oak, hickory, poplar, and other soft woods, and in no county do they thrive and grow more rapidly. On an open field, if uncultivated, pines spring up indigenously, and will become marketable timber within twenty years. A good deal of virgin forest still stands, and "second growth" can be purchased at reasonable prices.

The population is 19,244.

BUCHANAN This county, formed in 1858 from Russell and Tazewell, and named in honor of President Buchanan, is located in Southwest Virginia, and is one of the extreme border counties of the State, 250 miles southwest of Richmond. Area, 492 square miles. Average size farms, 236 acres. Lands are low, but have a speculation interest on account of immense mineral deposits.

Surface is rugged and mountainous. Comparatively little of the land is under cultivation, balance in timber. Soil of a sandy nature, and fertile.

Farm products are corn, wheat, rye, oats, millet, tobacco, potatoes, buckwheat, hay and sorghum. Wheat is well adapted to this section, and is receiving special attention. Stock raising and dairying are also sources of some revenue. Fruits of all kinds, especially grapes, do well, but are only grown sufficiently for home consumption.

The great importance attached to this county is its vast wealth of iron, coal and timber, which is attracting capital, and a large influx of population. Bituminous coal of fine quality and large quantity is found in veins from five to eleven feet in thickness. Timber of the usual kinds—but the most valuable of which are oak, poplar, ash and walnut—abound in large area and superior quality to any county in the State, perhaps, the getting out and rafting of which to Cincinnati and other points by the Big Sandy river, a branch of the Ohio, and its manufacture in the county by a number of extensive plants, afford employment to the largest number of people, and is a source of greatest revenue to the county and its inhabitants.

Reference to the various lumber plants operating in this county will convey an idea of the extent of this valuable industry.

Mineral waters are found to some extent, the most important of which are the Healing Springs.

Educational advantages consist of the usual county free schools.

As to churches, mail facilities, financial condition, progress, and general advancement, the conditions of this county are fairly favorable, and rapidly improving.

The climate, owing to elevation, is moist and cool. The weather station at Freeling (near by) reports the average temperature 52.4 degrees; rainfall 60.1.

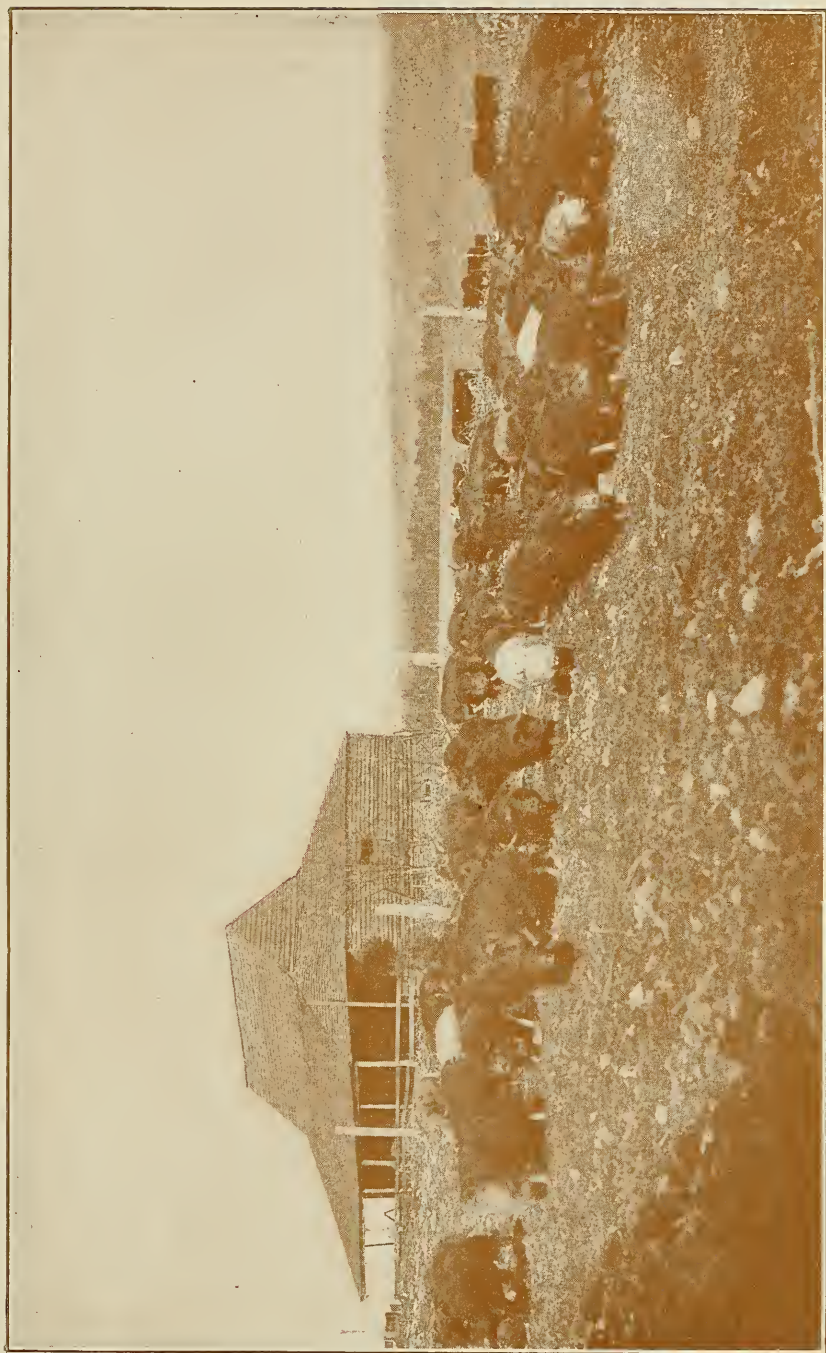
Total population of the county, census of 1910, is 12,334.

Grundy, the county seat, situated near centre of the county, has a population of 200, several churches, mills and factories, public school, a newspaper, etc. Its nearest railroad station is Richlands, on Clinch Valley railroad, distant about twenty-five miles.

BUCKINGHAM This county is located in the central part of the State, on south side of James river, about half way between Richmond and Lynchburg, and distant from each about fifty miles. It is thirty-five miles long and twenty-four miles wide; altitude, 550 feet.

It was originally a portion of Albemarle county, from which it was detached and formed into a county in the year 1761, containing an area of 552 square miles.

Surface is generally level, with large quantity of bottom land on the rivers, but rolling and hilly in some parts.



The large variety of crops that are grown in Virginia enables the farmer to produce the cheapest pork possible.

Soil is a gray and black loam, with red clay subsoil, which produces abundantly when brought to a high state of cultivation. There is a strip of black land from four to six miles wide extending across the western portion of the county, which, under the old regime before the war, was in a high state of improvement and was considered the garden spot of Buckingham.

Farm products are tobacco, corn, wheat, oats, hay, rye, buckwheat, etc. Tobacco is the staple crop of the county, producing about five million pounds annually. This tobacco is a dark shipping variety and is in good demand for English, Austrian and Italian markets. In some sections an acre of tobacco will bring to the planter \$100, and the average may be placed at from \$40 to \$60 per acre.

Wheat in the clay lands produces abundantly, yielding as much as thirty bushels to the acre, the average yield being from ten to fifteen bushels per acre. Corn, oats and hay also do well under careful and systematic cultivation.

Fruits and vegetables, such as apples, peaches, pears, plums, grapes, strawberries, melons, potatoes, garden vegetables, etc., are in abundance.

Stock and grazing facilities are fairly good; small cattle and sheep do well.

Timber lands embrace a large area of the usual varieties, such as oak, poplar, walnut, pine, hickory, chestnut, maple, etc., much of which is sawed and marketed, and large quantities converted into hoops, staves, shingles, and railroad ties.

This county is rich in minerals—copper, iron, gold, silver, slate, barytes, mica, limestone, soapstone, and asbestos. Her minerals are practically undeveloped, and untold wealth locked up in her borders is waiting for capital to liberate and utilize them for the benefit of mankind. There are three distinct gold-bearing veins two to fifteen feet wide, which extend across the county in a northeastern direction. Before the war these were worked extensively in a good many places, but owing to the crude methods of reducing ore and the process of removing the sulphur they were abandoned. Three companies have now acquired locations on these veins, and are making investigations, preparatory to work, which promise better results than ever before.

Population of the county, census of 1910, 15,204.

Buckingham Courthouse (Maysville), the county seat, is a thriving village, situated near the centre of the county, and reached by a branch of the Chesapeake and Ohio at New Canton.

Arvonnia is a growing town, owing to the slate mines at that place employing a large number of men, and a rapidly increasing output in that business. It contains a large graded school, several good churches, numerous residences, and others being erected.

This county, formed in 1781 from Bedford, and named for General William Campbell, a famous Revolutionary officer, is situated in the south central part of the State, five hours ride from Washington, six from Baltimore, and ten from New York; 145 miles by rail southwest

CAMPBELL

from Richmond.

It is nearly a square, twenty-five miles each way, and contains 554 square miles, seventy-five per cent. of which is cultivated. Price of lands, location, and facilities of transportation considered, few sections of the State offer better inducements to homeseekers. The surface is rolling and hilly; the soil, red clay in northern part, sandy in southern, and very fertile.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye and tobacco; the improved lands producing from fifteen to thirty bushels of wheat, and from fifty to seventy-five bushels of corn per acre; and the annual production of tobacco being from four to five million pounds, and of excellent quality.

The grasses, such as red clover, orchard and timothy, grow well, and, with proper attention and management, produce abundant crops. This county is especially adapted to fruit of the various kinds, such as apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, melons, grapes, berries, etc.; and is specially noted for the flavor, size and quality of its peaches. Vegetables and dairy products are considerable sources of revenue. Stock raising is profitably engaged in, but not to the extent that the favorable conditions would justify. The climate and soil are especially well adapted to the raising of sheep. Transportation facilities are unsurpassed; one trunk line—the Southern railway—extending north and south—two trunk lines—the Norfolk and Western, and the Chesapeake and Ohio—extending east and west; and the third, the Lynchburg and Durham, south. The Southern and the Lynchburg and Durham traverse the county its full length from north to south; and all its lines of railway have connection at Lynchburg, on the northern border, and combine to give the county superior market facilities in every direction. Lynchburg also affords an extensive and lucrative market for all farm products.

Iron ore, manganese, and barytes, are the most important and valuable minerals; the last two being developed and worked to some extent.

Population, independent of the city of Lynchburg, census of 1910, 23,043.

Rustburg, the county seat, is situated near the centre of the county, on the Lynchburg and Durham division of the Norfolk and Western railroad. It has graded streets, two public schools, three churches, one fraternal order, and a population of about 250. Value of real estate, \$1,947,663; personalty, \$1,417,790.

This county, located in the northeastern part of the State, eighteen miles north of Richmond, was formed in 1727 from King and Queen, Essex, and King William. It is about twenty-eight miles long and twenty miles wide, and contains an area of 562 square miles.

CAROLINE

There is a large amount of bottom lands on the numerous rivers and creeks which are very productive. The proportion of land under cultivation is about fifty per cent. The surface is rolling, the soil light, easily cultivated, and readily improved.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, potatoes, hay, and tobacco; field peas, also, are produced in great abundance, both as a fertilizer and as a forage crop. Much the most profitable industry of the county, however, is tobacco raising, the annual production of which is about one million pounds, bringing, as estimated for last year, largely over a quarter of a million dollars. The growing of fine manufacturing tobacco is a specialty, and in this respect it is not surpassed by any other county in the State. Other products are vegetables, butter, fruits and dairying, all of which are produced in abundance; and, with the advantages of convenient and extensive markets, such as Richmond, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, they constitute valuable and important industries. Stock raising is assuming some proportions, and the quality of stock is being very much improved. Excelsior, for packing, is extensively and profitably manufactured. Other industries have been established within the last couple of years—factory for making concrete blocks, several large lumber plants, a number of first-class waterpower flour mills, and an excellent telephone system throughout the county.

Timber is abundant, such as oak, hickory, walnut, pine, birch, etc., much of which is converted into lumber.

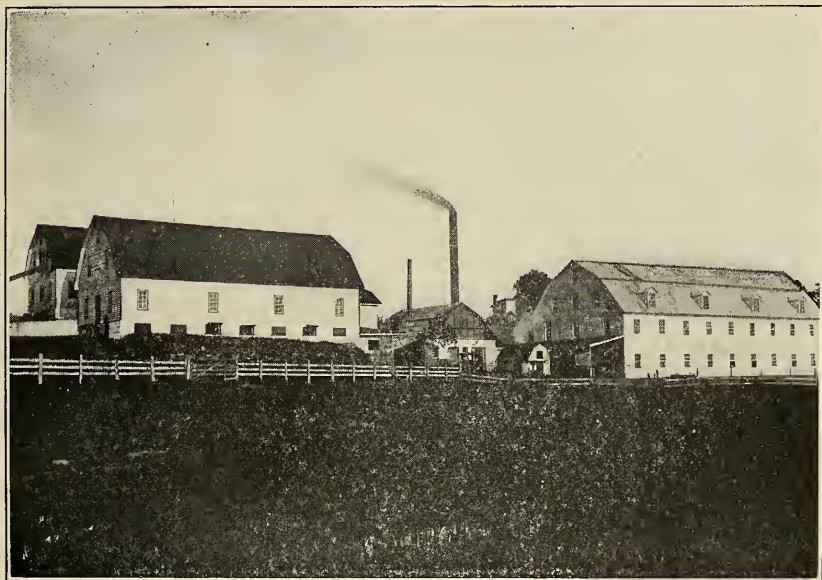
Its railroad, the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac, extends through the county from north to south.

This is one of the best watered counties in the State. Climate ex-

cellent, and very healthful as the result of its numerous fine springs of pure, soft, drinking water.

Population, census of 1910, 16,596.

Bowling Green, the county seat, is located near the centre of the county, three miles from Milford, the nearby station on the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad, from which point it has daily communication. It is a flourishing town of 458 inhabitants, several churches and public schools, academy, female seminary, tobacco warehouse, and carriage and wagon factory. Other towns are Port Royal, with a population of 193, and Ruther Glen, a small place, but busy railroad village.



One of Virginia's newest and most complete canning plants.

CARROLL

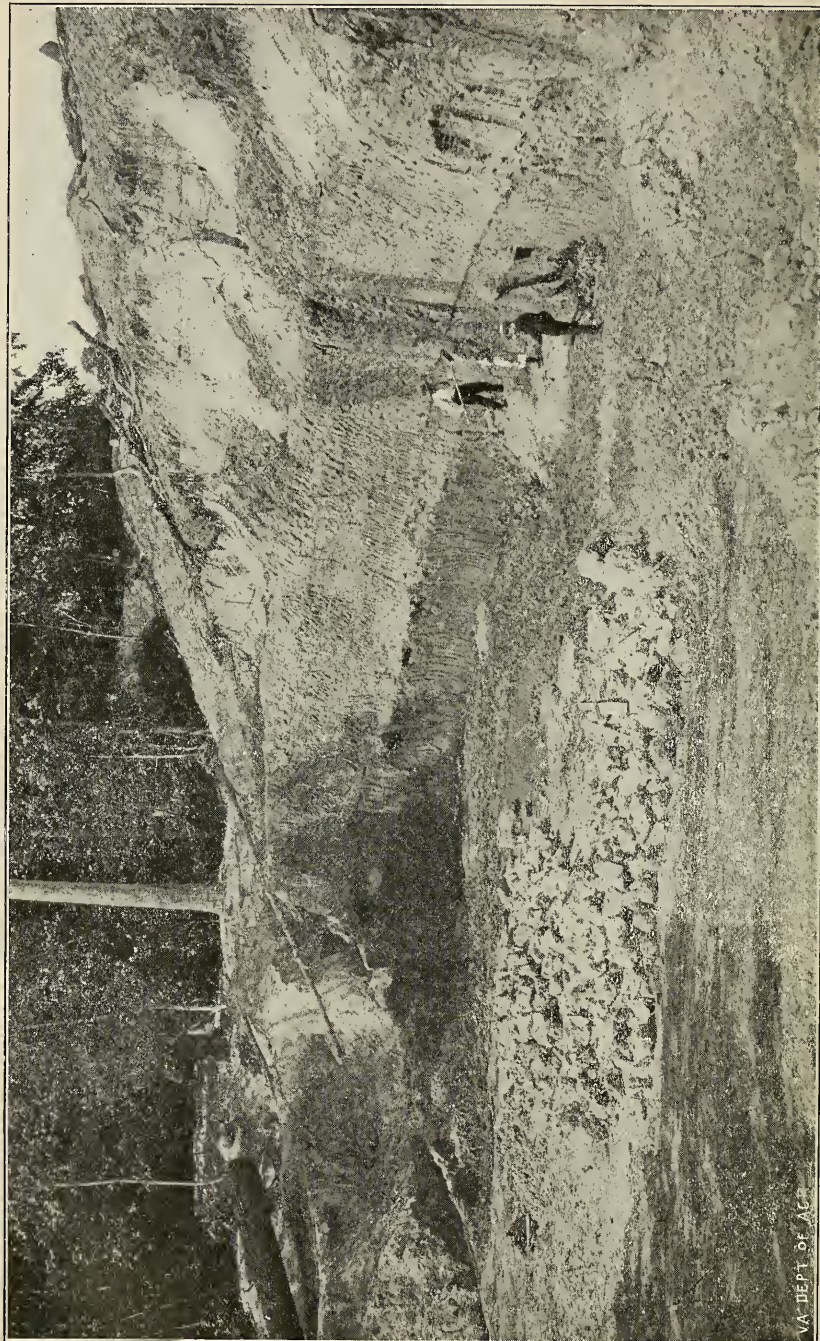
This county was formed in 1842 from the eastern part of Grayson, and was named in honor of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton. It is situated on the southern border of the State, 183 miles southwest from Richmond. It touches the North Carolina line.

Carroll contains a population, census of 1910, of 21,116.

It has an area of 445 square miles. Surface is broken and mountainous, with fertile and productive valleys, the largest area of desirable lands lying in the southern half of the county. It is bordered by the Alleghany and the Rocky mountains, and these mountain ranges are especially adapted to the pasturage of stock, large numbers of which are raised; cattle raising, especially, being one of the leading industries of the county.

The lands readily produce wheat, corn, oats, rye, buckwheat, potatoes, and the grasses. Some tobacco is also grown, but the county is especially noted for the production of rye and buckwheat, ranking among the first of the counties of the State for the production of these grains. Fruits are grown to great perfection, especially apples and grapes. Portions of the county are noted for the growth of the cranberry.

A large proportion of the county is still in timber of original growth, especially on the southern side, with good bodies of white pine in the



VA-DEPT. OF AGR.

There are a large number of valuable man deposits in Virginia which are high in calcium carbonate, affording a cheap soil improver.

northwestern section. The most important and valuable species are oak, pine, ash, cherry, walnut, poplar, and chestnut, of which a large amount is annually manufactured into lumber for export. Sawmills are numerous.

This county is very rich in minerals, the principal of which are copper and iron, the latter being extensively mined. Mica and asbestos are also known to exist, but are not developed.

Hillsville, the county seat, with a population of about 300, is situated near the centre of the county, in the basin of the Blue Ridge mountains on Little Reed Island creek, a tributary of New river. It is about ten miles south of Betty Baker depot, which is its nearest point on the Little Reed Island branch of the Norfolk and Western railroad. It contains, besides the courthouse, churches, hotels, stores, schools, newspapers, bank, shops, foundry, etc. Considerable business activity prevails here since the completion of the railroad to that section of busy mining operations, an increase of fifteen to twenty per cent. in the volume of trade being reported.

This county constituted one of the original shires into which the State was divided in 1634. It is located in the east central part of the State, twelve miles south-east of Richmond, on the peninsula formed by the James and the Chickahominy rivers.

It is thirty miles long, with a mean width of about eight miles, and has an area of 183 square miles. The surface is mostly level, or gently undulating. The soil is varied—alluvium and gray loam predominating—and is for the most part productive, especially on the rivers, where the quality is superior. These river lands constitute a large proportion of the area of the county, and upon them are found many fine old Colonial estates and residences.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, peanuts and hay, the yields of cereals being above the average for the State. Fruits and vegetables, to which the climate and soil are especially adapted, succeed admirably. Poultry and dairying are also profitable and growing industries. No section of the county is better adapted to a profitable trucking business, especially on the fine river lands, with their superior market advantages by rail and water. Stock and grazing facilities are very good, with an abundance of water and native grasses, and soil well adapted to the pasturage of stock.

The fish industry is a very important and profitable one in the county; all the streams abound in fish of the most valuable species, such as shad, herring, sturgeon, alewives, etc.

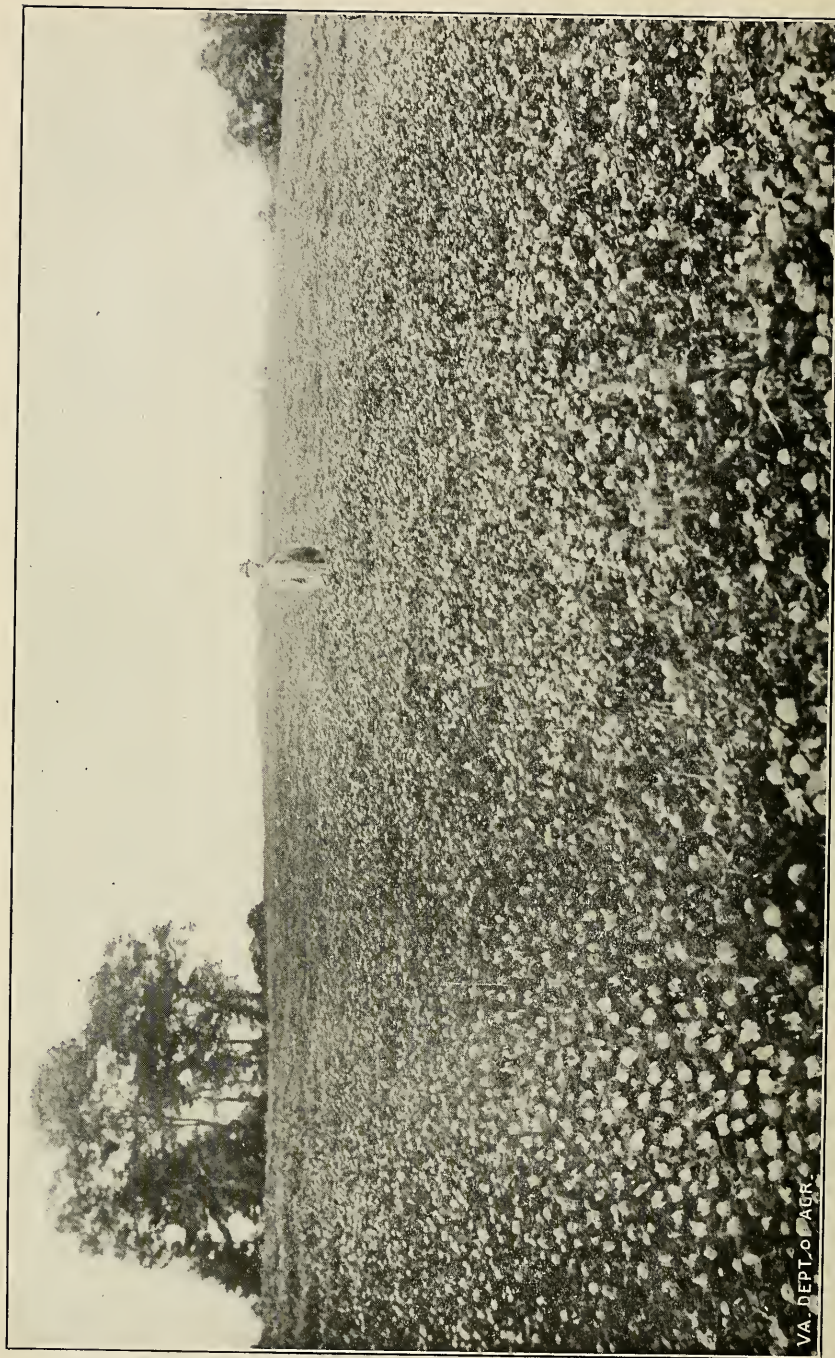
Marl of superior quality, and in large quantity, is found, and only awaits capital and development to become an important factor in the business of the county.

With only about fifty per cent. of the lands under cultivation, there remains an extensive area in timber. Original growth has been pretty generally cut off, but the second growth pine, oak, hickory, etc., rapidly replaces it.

Rivers are the James and the Chickahominy, with their numerous tributaries, which afford considerable water power, not as yet utilized. The transportation advantages afforded by these streams are of great profit and convenience, especially the James river, upon which there are daily boats from Richmond, and tri-weekly from Petersburg to Norfolk.

Railroad transportation consists of the Chesapeake and Ohio, which runs through the upper portion, bordering the county for eighteen or twenty miles. Public schools and roads are being fostered and built, and all public enterprises and improvements are being encouraged and pushed.

The climate is much modified by the surrounding water, and is temperate and pleasant, and with an abundance of pure freestone water.



One hundred and twenty acres of red clover just in bloom, fragrant and beautiful, helpful to the soil and furnishing valuable forage.

Health compares favorably with that of any other section. Churches and public schools are numerous, mail facilities good, and financial condition excellent, while the soil responds quickly to improvement, and retains fertility.

Population of the county, census of 1910, 5,253.

The county seat, Charles City Courthouse, is located near the centre of the county, and has a population of about one hundred.

This county, formed in 1764, from Lunenburg county, is located in central southern Virginia, sixty-six miles southwest of Richmond.

CHARLOTTE

It contains an area of 479 square miles. The surface is generally rolling; soil varying from loam to clay, and capable of high improvement; bottom and valley lands very productive.

Farm products are tobacco, wheat, corn, rye, oats, hay, peas, etc. It is especially the home of fine high-priced shipping tobacco, and is justly considered one of the finest tobacco growing counties in the State, yielding annually more than four million pounds. Vegetables and fruits of all kinds, such as apples, peaches, pears, cherries, grapes, melons, etc., are grown in abundance. Stock raising is also an important industry, to which the lands are well adapted. Wild fruits and nuts are abundant, the latter frequently almost sufficient for the fall fattening of hogs.

Timbers abound in large quantities, more than one-half of the surface is covered with forest, much of which is second growth, but there are still much of the native timbers, such as oak, poplar, hickory, walnut, ash, etc. The manufacture of lumber is one of the profitable industries of the county.

The minerals consist of iron, copper, mica, kaolin, soapstone, etc., the most important of which, perhaps, is iron, which has been found in veins eight to sixteen feet in width; but as yet the mineral wealth of the county is comparatively undeveloped, with the exception of copper, which is being mined now.

Mineral waters are lithia, sulphur, calcium, magnesia, etc.

Water courses are the Staunton river and other smaller streams, the former of which is navigable by bateaux and small steamers. Manufactories are confined chiefly to flouring and sawmills.

Railroad facilities are admirable, the Norfolk and Western on the north, the Lynchburg and Durham on the west, the Southern through the centre, a branch line from Keysville into North Carolina, and the Virginian through the centre.

Educational advantages are good, with a sufficient number of public and private schools. Financial condition of the county is very favorable. The public debt is small; county four per cent. bonds sell at par. In progress and general development, there is evident improvement in this county. The climate is mild and healthful; the water pure, with springs abundant. Churches and mail facilities numerous and convenient.

Population, census of 1910, 15,785.

It has the distinction of having been the home of two of Virginia's most distinguished sons—John Randolph and Patrick Henry.

Charlotte Courthouse is the county seat.

This county was established in 1748, from that part of Henrico which was then on the south of James river, and is a long and narrow peninsula between the James and the Appomattox rivers. It is twenty-eight miles long and eighteen miles wide, and is nearly divided into three parts, one between James river and Falling creek, the next between Falling and Swift creeks, and the last between Swift creek and Appomattox river, and extends to Richmond on the north, to Petersburg on the south, with an area of 484 square miles.

CHESTERFIELD

The most valuable lands are found on James river.

The surface and soil are varied, and mostly tillable. The river and creek bottoms are level, alluvial, fertile and under cultivation. The uplands are rolling and less fertile, of a gray and sandy nature, and clay subsoil.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, tobacco, peanuts and hay.

Hay is grown in larger quantities than heretofore, especially on the bottom lands, and tobacco is raised to great success on the uplands. The farming interests of this county are rapidly undergoing a change for the better through the advent of northern and western settlers, who are turning their attention to the production of butter and milk, grapes, berries, small fruits and vegetables for the nearby markets of Richmond and Petersburg, and for the northern markets by steamers on James river. Chesterfield in former Virginia expositions received the first premium for county agricultural products, and the second for timber, wood and mineral.



Winter Beardless Barley is a good crop and is coming into favor.

Trucking is an important branch of industry.

Principal minerals are coal, ochre, fire-brick clay, venetian red, marl, and granite. This county is celebrated for its inexhaustible mines of coal, which have been worked for a long period, and constitute its chief source of wealth; the most important of which are Midlothian, Clover Hill, Black Heath, and Winterpock. The last-named is now in full operation. The coal fields run entirely across the county, with an average width of six to eight miles, and geologists have expressed the opinion that the supply of coal is practically inexhaustible. There are thought to be thousands of acres of undeveloped coal lands still in the county.

Timber is abundant, embracing about fifty per cent. of the area of the county, large quantities of which are annually manufactured into lumber and exported; for which there are most excellent facilities by



See the expression of satisfaction in the face of this good-looking Alfalfa grower. He is saying "Eureka."

rail and river. The interior of the county abounds in forests of original and second growth timber, such as pine, oak, poplar, cedar, hickory, ash, chestnut, beech, walnut, willow, mulberry, gum, holly, and persimmon; and along Appomattox river extending to City Point are also large forests of more valuable timber.

The county is well watered, irrigated and drained by the James and Appomattox rivers and numerous small streams, which flow through the county. Game and fish of all kinds are abundant.

Railroads are the Southern railway, the Seaboard Air Line, the Atlantic Coast Line, the Tidewater and Western, and the Norfolk and Western, traversing every portion of the county, north, south, east and west.

The county roads are fairly good. Two turnpikes penetrate the county, the Buckingham turnpike and the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike.

There are many places of interest and importance in the county, to which allusion should be made. One of the ancient landmarks is Salisbury, the former residence of Patrick Henry; another, Matoaca, the scene of John Randolph's early years; and still another, Warwick, which prior to the Revolution was larger than Richmond, and one of the principal shipping points on James river.

Bon Air and Dry Bridge Depot, on the Southern Railway, are the homes in summer of a large number of Richmond's best citizens. There are few places at which there are more of the beauties of nature than at Forest Hill Park.

The public school system is in a flourishing condition, having over eighty public schools, and no section of the county is destitute in this respect. There are also a number of high-grade schools. The male academies at Bon Air and Chester are in a flourishing condition, and the same may be said of the female institutes at Chester and Skinquarter. The Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute, founded in 1882, for the higher education of the colored youth of the State, is also situated in Chesterfield, near Petersburg, and is doing a good work. It receives a liberal annual appropriation from the State.

Churches and postoffices are numerous and conveniently distributed. The climate of Chesterfield is salubrious and healthful; the character and morals of the people of a high order. Chesterfield Courthouse is the county seat.

Population of the county, census of 1910, 21,299.

CLARKE

This county was formed in 1836 from Frederick, and named in honor of General Rogers Clarke, who distinguished himself in the Indian and the Revolutionary wars. It lies in the centre of the Shenandoah valley, in almost the extreme northern part of the State, 106 miles northwest of Richmond, and bordering on the Maryland line.

The surface of the central portion of the county, and west of the Shenandoah river, is undulating, the soil limestone, and unsurpassed for fertility and productiveness. The land east of the Sheanandoah river is mountainous, and valuable for its abundance of timbers, such as pine, oak, chestnut, hickory, poplar, cedar, and locust, large quantities of which are annually converted into timber for export. Portions of this mountain section produce excellent blue grass when cleared, affording fine pasturage for sheep and cattle.

It may truly be said that, in proportion to its size, this is one of the richest counties in the State, the county is rather below the average in size, being about seventeen miles long and ten miles wide, with an area of 189 miles. Farms are well improved with buildings and fencing, and are in a thorough state of cultivation.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, potatoes, hay, etc. Special attention is given to the wheat crop, the lands being among the finest

in the State for the production of this grain. All fruits of this latitude are grown to great perfection, and large quantities of apples and peaches are annually shipped to the nearby markets.

This being a native blue grass section, the raising of cattle is very extensively engaged in, the cities of Washington, Baltimore and New York affording convenient markets for their sale.

Limestone, for building purposes, exists in large quantities.

The Shenandoah river winds its course along the base of the Blue Ridge, and, with its several tributaries—Chapel, Opequon and Birch creeks—plentifully waters the county.

The Shenandoah Valley branch of the Norfolk and Western railroad, extending from Hagerstown, Maryland, to Roanoke, Virginia, passes through the central part of the county from north to south. The Valley branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad extends through the northwest part, thus bringing the county into communication with all the different sections of the country.

Everything conspires to make this a very highly favored section of the State, with its intelligent enterprising population, its healthful climate, fine water, numerous public schools, and churches of the various denominations.

Total population of county, census of 1910, 7,468.

Berryville, the county seat, is a thriving, growing town of 1,000 inhabitants. It is located on the Shenandoah Valley railroad, a little north of the centre of the county.

CRAIG This county was formed in 1850 from Botetourt, Roanoke, Giles and Monroe, and borders on the State of West Virginia, from which it is separated by the Alleghany mountains. It is located in Southwest Virginia, 145 miles west of Richmond. Though the small-

est of the southwestern counties, it is by no means the least important, containing an area of 351 square miles. Lands are fertile and well-kept, varying from light sandy to clay, of limestone formation, and peculiarly adapted to the growth of rich grasses. Accordingly we find here a pastoral people, who have, for a number of years, made the raising of live stock the principal industry of the county, annually shipping to the eastern markets a large number of fine horses, cattle and sheep, many of the cattle being high-grade short-horns. The surface of the county is to a considerable extent rugged and mountainous, but there are some very fertile valleys that challenge comparison with the best sections of the State, notably Sinking Creek valley, which is twenty miles long and about four miles wide, of limestone formation, covered with a rich blue grass sward, and is one of the finest stock-raising sections of the State, shipping its cattle for the export market direct from grass. The staple agricultural products, such as wheat, corn, oats, etc., are also successfully grown, and considerable attention is paid to the raising of poultry, especially turkeys, of which large numbers are annually shipped from the county. All the fruits and vegetables common to this latitude are grown with the best results.

Minerals consist mainly of iron, manganese and slate. Indications of silver have been found, and fine pottery and brick clays are abundant. The Manganese Iron and Coal Company own 20,000 acres of land lying in Craig and Montgomery counties, extending from Craig City along the slope of Craig mountain for a distance of twenty-five miles, along the Johns Creek mountain a distance of about seventeen miles. It thus embraces the outcroppings of all these great ore-bearing formations for a distance of about forty miles. The various ores yield from forty to sixty per cent. of metallic iron, the average being fully fifty per cent. lower in phosphorus and containing no injurious substances. The supply of manganese is inexhaustible and of excellent quality.

The timber of this section is noted for its fine quality, large portions of the county being covered with original forests of oak, hickory, ash, poplar, pine, maple, walnut, sycamore, wild cherry, beech, etc. Numerous sawmills are in operation.

Its railroads are the Craig Valley branch of the Chesapeake and Ohio, entering New Castle, and a branch of the Norfolk and Western from Big Stony, tapping the iron ore and timber of Pitts Valley at Paint Bank.



This high grade Virginia shorthorn yearling is as pretty as a flower, and when properly fed and grazed would top any market.

Total population, census of 1910, 4,711.

The inhabitants are prosperous, thrifty and law-abiding. Educational advantages are much improved, receiving more than ordinary attention. Several religious denominations are represented, and churches numerous and convenient.

New Castle is the county seat, and most important town in the county.

CULPEPER

This county was formed in 1748 from Orange, and named in honor of Lord Culpeper, Governor of the Colony for three years, from 1680. It is separated from Fauquier by the Rappahannock river, and is one of the northern counties of the Piedmont region, though not wholly of that region, the lower portion running down into Middle Virginia; hence its surface is less rugged than that of some of the other Piedmont counties, and by the United States reports it is in point of health second only to Asheville, in the whole country. It is 102 miles northwest of Richmond. Altitude 403 feet.

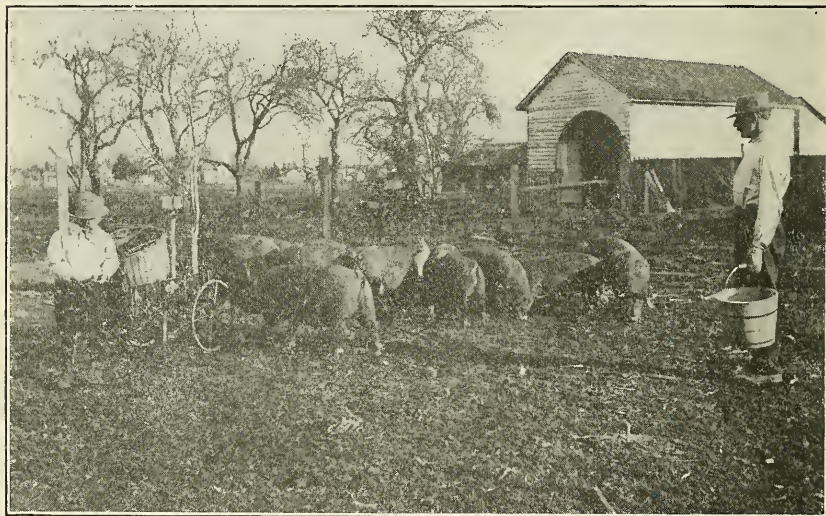
Surface generally rolling, but several detached mountains or spurs, in portions of the county, give it a very picturesque and attractive appearance. Soil is red clay, chocolate, and sometimes sandy, producing fine crops of wheat, rye, corn, oats and hay. Culpeper raises annually about 500,000 bushels of Indian corn, and has the reputation of producing the largest quantity of broom corn of any county in the State. It has also one of the best and most general telephone systems in the

State. Fruits of all kinds, especially apples, succeed well along the mountain slopes. Much attention is paid to stock raising, and the breeds of cattle, horses and hogs have been greatly improved since the war by the introduction of much thoroughbred stock, which has gained for the county an enviable reputation for the superior quality of her live stock.

The farm lands of this section have attracted considerable attention during the past few years, and many farmers from the north have moved to this locality, the increase of population showing an advance movement in this respect.

Population, census of 1910, 13,472; area, 399 square miles.

About one-third of the county is in original timber, oak and pine, oak predominating.



This Virginia farmer makes his pork for less than 4 cents per pound.

The minerals of this county are gold (heavy quartz), copper, iron, mica, marble and fire clay, but they have been but slightly developed. The gold mines have been favorably reported on by distinguished mineralogists and mineral experts, and some have been developed and worked.

The water courses of the county are the Rappahannock, Rapidan, and Hazel rivers and their tributaries, which afford abundant water for agricultural purposes and fine water power.

The Southern railroad traverses the county from northeast to southwest, furnishing most excellent transportation facilities. There is also a good turnpike extending from the county seat to Sperryville, Rappahannock county. The character of the public roads is fair, with a disposition to improvement, some ten or fifteen miles of macadam having been recently built.

Public schools and churches are numerous and convenient. Culpeper, the county seat, is located near the centre of the county, on the Virginia Midland division of the Southern Railway, and had a population, census of 1900, of 1,618, now 2,000.

This county, formed from Goochland in 1748, lies on the south side of James river and extends to Appomattox river. It is thirty-eight miles west of Richmond. Dimensions, thirty miles long, and about ten miles wide. Area, 297 square miles. Price of land is very reasonable, but it can be made to pay well. Lands lie well for farming, and yield well, especially those on the rivers, which are very fertile. Surface, to a considerable extent, level, the balance is undulating. Soil, gray loam, with red clay subsoil, capable of being made very productive.

Farm products are tobacco, wheat, corn, oats, rye, buckwheat, cotton, and sorghum; clover also grows well, but the most important and profitable industry is tobacco growing. Fruits and vegetables of the usual varieties are successfully produced, such as apples, pears, peaches, apricots, plums, tomatoes, sweet and Irish potatoes, cabbage, etc.

Grazing facilities are fairly good, but probably the most profitable industry in that line is sheep husbandry, which is being very successfully followed. There is still much of the original growth of timber in the county, such as oak of various kinds, hickory, walnut, pine, poplar, ash, etc.

Minerals are found to some extent, the principal of which is coal. Fine mineral springs have recently been discovered, from which, within a few feet of each other, flow lithia, sulphur, chalybeate, and magnesia water. The James, Appomattox and Willis rivers afford abundant water power and fish in many varieties.

Railroads are the Chesapeake and Ohio on the northern, and Norfolk and Western on the southern borders, with the Tidewater and Western running through the county, a distance of thirty miles from Powhatan county line on the northeast, to Farmville on the southeast.

Total population of county, census of 1910, 9,195.

Cumberland, the county seat, located about the centre of the county, on the Tidewater and Western railroad, has shown considerable improvement, viz: the establishment of tobacco warehouses and stemmeries, all of which have been enlarged and others built.

This county was formed in the year 1880 from the counties of Wise, Buchanan and Russell, and named in honor of William J. Dickenson. It is situated in the extreme western section of the State. Its altitude is 1,800 feet. The climate is healthful and invigorating, the average temperature being 52.4 degrees F., rainfall, 60.1. The soil varies in texture, but is principally sandy.

The county contains an area of 324 square miles, 313,597 acres. It has 700 farms averaging in size 225 acres each.

This is one of the best counties in the State for investors, as the prices of lands are comparatively low, and the resources of the county as yet undeveloped.

Farm products are corn, wheat, rye, oats, millet, tobacco, potatoes, sorghum, and buckwheat; also vegetables and fruits are grown to a considerable extent. Stock and grazing facilities are fairly good, the wild range excellent in some sections. Being in the great grazing region of the southwest, a considerable portion of the county has, naturally, good grass lands. Timbers, of most valuable kind and superior quality, are found here in great abundance. A very large portion of the county, probably half of its area, is in original forest of oak, hickory, poplar, walnut, elm, ash, maple, wild cherry, cucumber, pine, and hemlock. There are numerous saw mills in the county, and much lumber is cut and hauled to various points on the Norfolk and Western railroad, and considerable logging done, the logs being floated down the waters of the Big Sandy river to Cincinnati and other points. There is an abundance of coal and iron, besides many mineral springs of great medicinal value. The wealth of the county in fine bituminous, splint and cannel coals is

unsurpassed by the same area anywhere, but is as yet comparatively unworked. The streams of the county are Pound, Cranes Nest, and Russell Fork rivers, and McClure's creek, which flows north, through breaks of the Cumberland mountains, into the Ohio. These streams afford splendid water power, but it has not been utilized. In many places on these streams the scenery is very imposing, especially that on Russell Fork river, the deep canyon at the breaks of the Cumberland mountains, in the northern end of the county.

Population, census of 1910, 9,199.

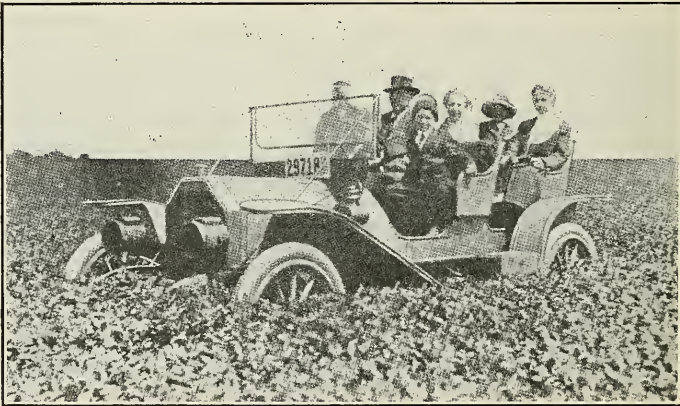
Clintwood, the county seat, is located in the western part of the county.

This county was formed from Prince George in 1752, and named in honor of Robert Dinwiddie, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia from 1752 to 1758.

DINWIDDIE
It is situated at the head of tidewater, between the Appomattox and Nottoway rivers, twenty-two miles south of Richmond, and has an area of 521 square miles, one-third of which is cultivated. Its farms average 160 acres each.

The surface is, in some parts, undulating, but mostly level. The soil, light gray in the southern and eastern parts, red stiff clay loam in other portions is very fertile, especially on the river courses and in the vicinity of Petersburg.

The principal farm products are tobacco, cotton and peanuts. The grains, rye, oats, wheat, and corn, are grown to some extent, especially the



The farmer who sows crimson clover seed plentifully each year can "ride the machine."

latter. Clover and other grasses do well, and yield good crops of hay when seeded on the creek and river bottoms, or on improved lands. Potatoes likewise, both sweet and Irish, melons, berries, and vegetables of all kinds, grow in abundance, and render trucking an exceedingly profitable industry to the farmers, especially in the eastern portion of the county and in the vicinity of Petersburg, where market and shipping facilities are so extensive and convenient.

Transportation facilities are excellent, and are furnished by the Seaboard Air Line, the Atlantic Coast Line, and the Norfolk and Western railways; also water navigation by the Appomattox river above and below the city of Petersburg, extending to James river and to the sea.

Mineral products are iron ore, marl, and granite in abundance and of the finest quality. The timbers are pine, oak, poplar, walnut, hickory,

ash, gum, and maple, the greater portion of which is second growth. The climate is mild and healthful and the water plentiful and good.

All sections of the county are well supplied with churches of the various denominations. The public schools are in a flourishing condition, with comfortable school buildings and competent teachers.

The Central State Hospital, for colored patients exclusively, is located in this county near Petersburg. It was founded in Richmond in 1870, but subsequently, in 1885, was removed to its present location. It is one of the largest hospitals for colored insane in the United States.

Mail facilities are ample, and the financial condition of the county very favorable.

Dinwiddie, the county seat, is located near the centre of the county, twelve miles southwest from Petersburg, on the Seaboard Air Line railway. It has several churches, a public school, and a fraternal order.

Population, independent of Petersburg, census of 1910, 15,442.

This county was one of the original shires into which Virginia was divided in 1634, and Queen Elizabeth is the derivation of the name. It is situated at the southeastern extremity of Virginia's great peninsular, on Chesapeake bay, and at the mouth of James river, bordering upon the historic Hampton Roads, sixty-five miles southeast from Richmond.

Its form is nearly a square of seven miles on a side. With the exception of Alexandria, it is the smallest county in the State, having an area of fifty square miles, one-half of which is in cultivation. The surface is level, and the soil varies from light and sandy to rich alluvial, much of it being highly fertile.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, hay and potatoes. Vegetables and fruits do well, especially the small fruits, berries, etc. Farming land has advanced fifty per cent. Poultry raising receives a great deal of attention and finds a very remunerative home market. Trucking is a very important industry in the county; but perhaps the most profitable industry of the county is its fish, crab and oyster business. These abound in inexhaustible quantities, and of the finest quality, in the surrounding waters, and give profitable employment to a large number of the inhabitants. Wild fowl—geese, ducks, swans, etc.—are also found in large numbers on the streams. There is very little stock (other than that for dairy purposes) raised in the county.

The Chesapeake and Ohio railroad and different lines of electric railways afford ample facilities of travel and transportation, and the county, being almost surrounded by navigable waters, is in daily communication, by steamers, with Richmond, Norfolk, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston, affording excellent market advantages for its products.

The interior water supply and drainage are furnished by Back river and Hampton river. Manufactories consist of saw mills, iron foundry, and shoe, sash and blind, and oil factories.

The climate is temperate, delightful and remarkably healthful. Churches of the various Protestant denominations and most excellent public schools are well distributed over the county. Telephone and free delivery mail facilities are ample, public roads good, and the financial condition of the county excellent.

Population, census of 1910, 21,205.

Hampton's transportation facilities are exceptionally good, having connection with two steamship lines to Washington, three to Baltimore, one to New York direct, and one by way of Cape Charles and rail, besides one to Boston. The city is also in ferry connection with Norfolk, connecting with all lines South, while it is located on the Chesapeake and Ohio railway, connecting with the West.

Statistics compiled by a prominent physician indicate climatic conditions in the county as the very best to be found anywhere. The water supply is abundant. The public school system embraces high school, normal and agricultural schools, and well supervised graded schools. The streets of the city are paved with granolithic sidewalks. It has an excellent municipal government, replete in all of its departments.

Located here is the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, for the education and training of negroes and Indians, with a capacity of about nine hundred students, and an efficient corps of teachers and professors. It was opened in 1868, and incorporated in 1870, being the first permanent school for freedom in the South. It is aided by both the State and National governments, but is dependent upon voluntary donations for the greater part of its support.

Other institutions of learning, located here, are the Hampton Female College, the Hampton High School, the Virginia School for Colored Deaf and Blind Children, and the Syms-Eaton free school, all in successful operation; also, numbers of other handsome buildings, notably the Bank of Hampton building, constructed at a cost of about \$100,000.

Truck farming in the immediate vicinity is an important factor to that section.

Hampton is one of America's most conspicuous cities from an historical point of view—conspicuous as being next to the oldest city in the United States, and as having a frontage on the greatest harbor known to the world, in which occurred (near by) the great battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.

Other points of great interest in the county are Old Point Comfort, Fortress Monroe, and the National Soldiers' Home.

The former is situated at the junction of Chesapeake bay with Hampton roads and three miles from the town of Hampton, with which it has electric railway connection. It got its name from Captain Christopher Newport, who found it a safe haven during a severe storm—the "Old" being added to distinguish it from New Point Comfort, a few miles away. It is one of the most fashionable and popular resorts on the Atlantic coast, and is especially attractive for its fine bathing, boating and fishing.

Near by is Fortress Monroe, commanding the approach to Hampton Roads, and at which is stationed the United States school of artillery. This is now the largest artillery garrison in this country.

The National Soldiers' Home for disabled volunteer soldiers, is located near Hampton. It has beautiful grounds and buildings, and expends annually one and a half million dollars, much of which benefits the county.

This county was formed from (old) Rappahannock in 1692, the records of the original county remaining in its archives. It is a northeastern county, thirty-five miles below Fredericksburg, on the Rappahannock river.

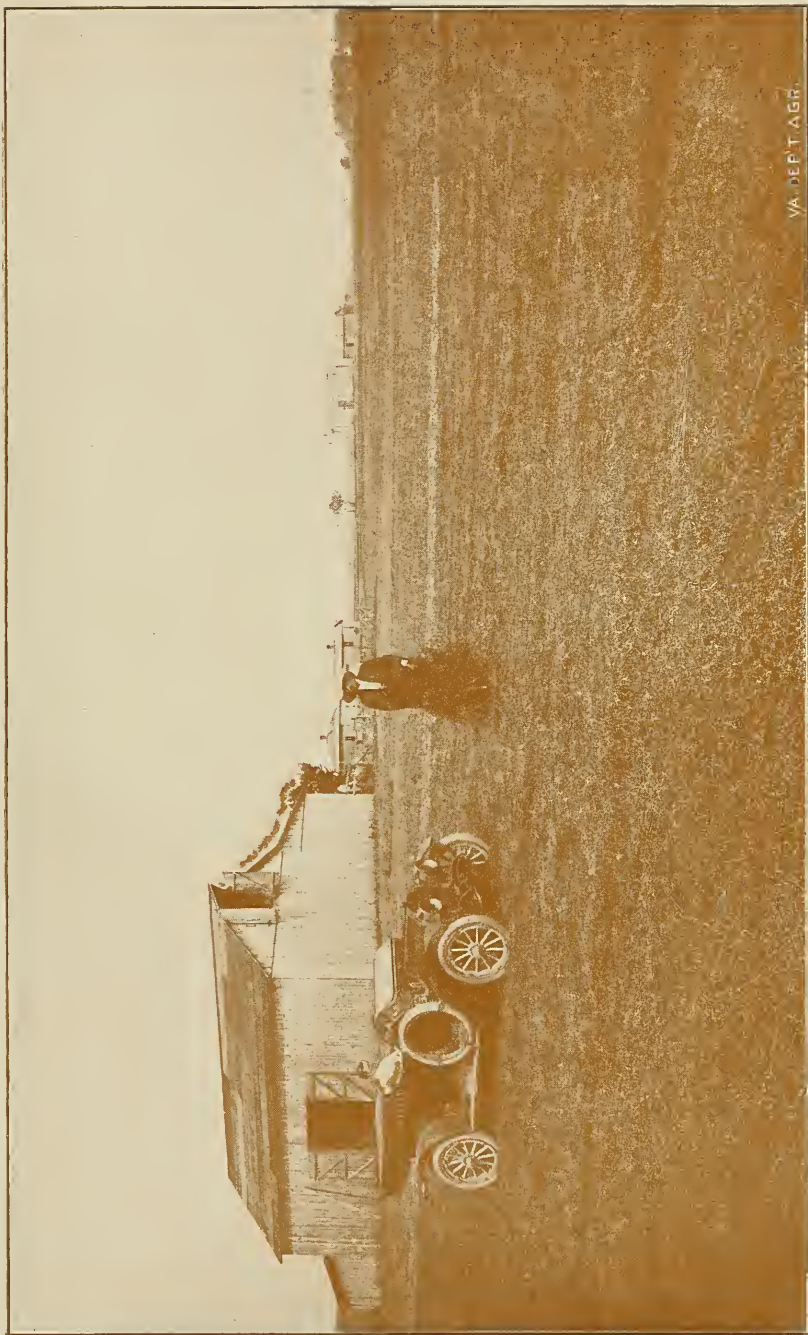
About twenty miles of its lower river front is in the famous oyster section, which produces as fine oysters as any section of the State.

This county was once the seat of great wealth, and by well directed enterprise and energy could be still readily restored to its former affluence and importance.

Dimensions of county are as follows: About thirty-five miles long and six miles wide; area, 277 square miles.

The lands are fertile and easily cultivated, and, being smooth, with no stone, all improved agricultural machinery can be used to advantage.

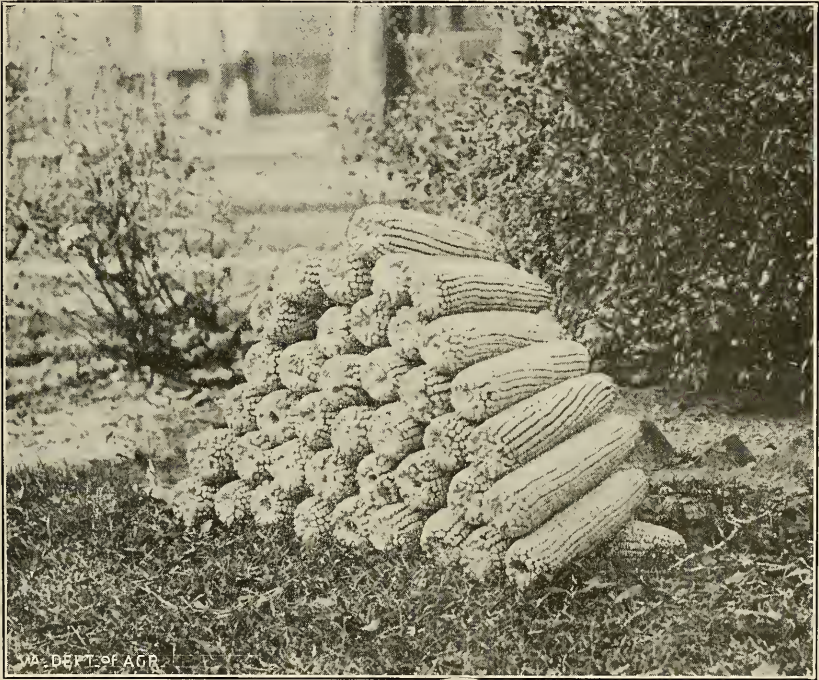
Physical aspects of the county are the same as in the Tidewater country generally, the surface principally level, or slightly rolling. Soil is sandy loam, with clay subsoil. The river lands are very good, and



A field of red clover well cured and ready for the hay barn.

when properly drained are very productive and valuable. On the Dragon Swamp lands, which separate Essex from King and Queen, are fine wheat lands, with a heavy, tenacious soil of great fertility. The lands of the county respond readily to any effort at improvement, and there is no part of the State where farming can be engaged in with better prospects of success.

Farm products are wheat, corn, oats and hay. Trucking also forms a very important item of agriculture in this county. The extra early English pea grows to great perfection. Several thousand acres in the eastern part of the county are annually cultivated in these peas. Potatoes also, and other vegetables, with dairy products, are sources of much



Corn is one of Virginia's "stand-by" crops.

revenue. This county is well adapted to the growth of fruit, such as peaches, apples, pears, and the smaller fruits. There are some very fine peach orchards in the county—numbering as many as 10,000 or 12,000 trees each—the products of which are shipped in large quantities, bringing the highest prices in the northern markets, or disposed of to the several canneries in the county. Clover and other grasses grow readily, and interest in these products has greatly increased, indicating an improved condition in farming.

Growing and fattening live stock for market (especially cattle) is very profitable. Owing to the mild winters they are fed with much less expense than in the colder sections of the State, and numbers of the native-grown cattle, weighing 1,500 pounds for three-year olds, are sold every year for export, but perhaps the greater portion of the cattle of the county is shipped to Baltimore market.

The Rappahannock river is well supplied with fish and oysters. The

shad and herring fisheries, especially, are very valuable, employing many men and vessels.

About fifty per cent. of the county is under cultivation, and the balance embraces considerable quantities of timber in oak, pine, elm, ash, poplar and chestnut. Some few lumber mills are in operation.

Population of county, census of 1910, 9,105.

Tappahannock, the county seat, is a port of entry for the district. It is located on the Rappahannock river, in the northeast part of the county reasonable. The surface of the county is generally rolling and large sumac mill, canning factory, foundry and machine shops. Its water supply is from artesian wells, and the town is laid off on the same plan and same day as Philadelphia. Other towns of the county are Loretta and Dunnsville.

FAIRFAX

This county was formed from Prince William in 1742, and named in honor of Lord Fairfax. It lies on the west bank of the Potomac river. The eastern portion of the county is in the immediate vicinity of the cities of Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria. It is situated in the northeastern portion of the State, seventy-eight miles north of Richmond, and contains an area of 433 square miles; generally in a high state of cultivation, with nice, commodious buildings. The altitude is 382 feet.

Lands near Washington city are high, but in the interior of the county, reasonable. The surface of the county is generally rolling and smooth, nine-tenths of which is arable. A variety of soils exist; in some sections sandy, but generally red clay. The lands throughout the county are generally good; in some parts very fertile and capable of a high state of cultivation.

Farm products, already very large, are rapidly increasing, and consist principally of corn, wheat, oats, rye, hay, fruits, dairy, and vegetables. The cultivation of wheat has increased immensely. Fruit culture is an important industry in the county, and is being rapidly developed. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, quinces and grapes are grown in great abundance, and of the latter there are vineyards of over 100 acres. Fairfax has formerly stood at the head of the list of counties in the value of orchard products.

The dairy business is conducted on an extensive scale, and has enormously increased within recent years, until the daily shipments of milk and cream to Washington and Georgetown amount to over 4,000 gallons. There are also several butter and cheese factories in the county. Poultry raising and market gardening are largely engaged in, and are sources of much revenue. Its proximity to Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria insures a convenient and ready market for all products of the farm, dairy and garden.

The fish industry in the Potomac and small streams gives employment and remuneration to quite a large number of people. The raising of cattle, sheep and hogs is carried on to a considerable extent, and is quite profitable.

Educational advantages consist of the public free schools, the Episcopal High School, the Theological Seminary, and convenient access to the schools of Washington and those of Alexandria. Churches and mail facilities are numerous and convenient. Financial condition of the county is very favorable, and telephone service is very good, having direct communication with Washington and Alexandria.

Population of county, census of 1910, 20,536.

Fairfax, the county seat, is located in the centre of the county, midway between the main line and the Washington and Bluemont branch of the Southern railway, and about six miles from each. It is also the terminus of the W., A. & F. C. electric railroad. It is a thriving inland village of 500 inhabitants, with streets well graded and paved, several

public and private schools, churches, Masonic lodges, carriage and wagon factory, newspaper (the *Fairfax Herald*), etc.

Mount Vernon, the beautiful home and burial place of Washington, is situated in this county on the banks of the Potomac, eight miles below Alexandria and fifteen miles from Washington city, from which latter place steamers visit Mount Vernon daily. There is also an electric railway connecting it with Alexandria and Washington. The grounds are in charge of the Mount Vernon Association, and are visited by thousands of persons from all parts of the world.

This county was formed in 1759 from Prince William, and named in honor of Francis Fauquier, who was Governor from 1758 to 1767.

FAUQUIER

This is a northern county, sixty-three miles, air line, north of Richmond. It lies at the upper waters of the Rappahannock river, which separates it from Culpeper and Rappahannock on the west, and at the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains on the northwest, which separates it from Warren.

Besides the Blue Ridge, there are several other mountain ranges in the county, the principal of which are the Carter's and Bull Run, which form a chain through its central part north and south.

The length is forty-five miles, mean breadth sixteen miles, area 676 square miles. The surface is gently rolling, and in some portions quite hilly, but with considerable level land. About eighty per cent. of the county is under cultivation, and, having been judiciously managed, is generally in a high state of improvement. The soil in most part is very fertile, especially the noted greenstone lands, which constitute the richest part of this productive county.

Farm products are wheat, corn (in the production of which it is second in the State), oats, hay, peas, beans, potatoes, and vegetables of all kinds. The productions of the county furnish a large surplus for the markets. The usual fruits adapted to this latitude, such as apples, peaches, pears, cherries, and the smaller fruits, succeed admirably, and are being largely grown; also, the grape is being successfully cultivated, especially on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge mountains. The most important products of the county are the cereals and grasses, but stock raising ranks as the chief industry.

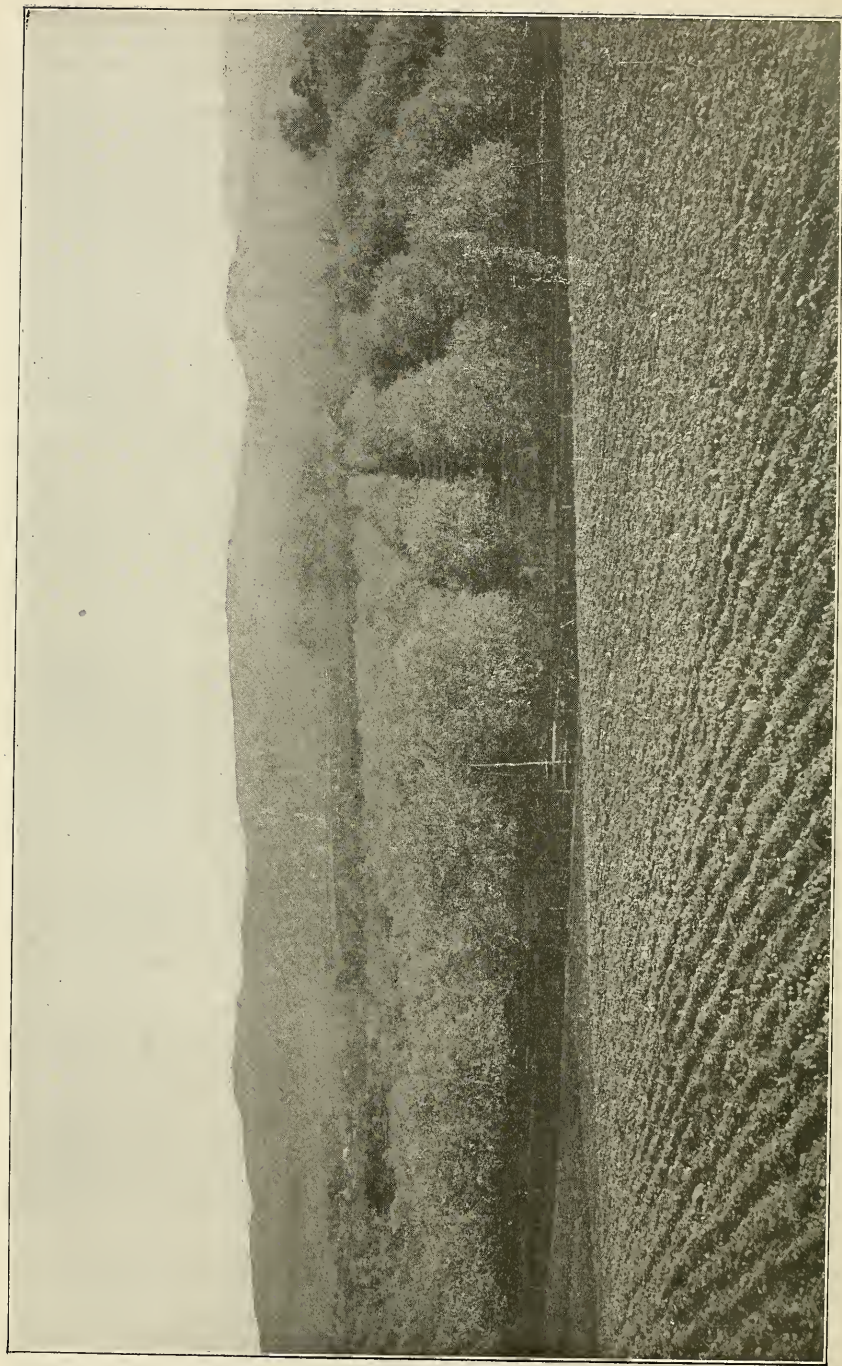
This is essentially a pastoral county, being so thoroughly watered, and the soil so well adapted to the growth of all the grasses, especially the nutritious blue grass, which grows spontaneously, and is so valuable in the production of fine cattle, for which this county is so noted in the markets of Washington, Baltimore and the cities farther north, as well as in the export markets of Europe.

This county is very favorably situated as to markets, with its splendid railroad service, north and south, affording quick, easy and cheap transportation to the nearby cities of Alexandria, Washington and Baltimore. Its railroads are the Manassas and Warrenton branches of the Southern railway.

The mineral formations of this county are various, embracing gold, iron, copper, asbestos, marble, slate, sandstone, and granite, several of which are mined and quarried. Timber is good, consisting principally of oak, hickory, chestnut and poplar. There is an unusually large number of saw mills in operation in this county, also spoke mills, and other small factories.

Fauquier is abundantly watered by the Rappahannock and Occoquan rivers, and other small streams, which also afford splendid water power for all kinds of manufacturing purposes.

The climate is delightful, especially in summer, not objectionably severe in winter, very healthful, and free from all malarious diseases or fevers. Water is freestone and very abundant; never-failing springs and wells on almost every tract.



Ten acres average yield 1,480 measured bushels No. 1 apples.

There are churches of all Protestant denominations throughout the county. Mail facilities ample, and public schools numerous and of a high order, also several academies of excellent standing.

Warrenton, the chief town and county seat, 365 feet above the sea level.

Population of county, census of 1910, 22,546.

Fauquier ranks high as regards quality of soil, beauty of scenery, healthfulness and general prosperity, having among its farmers some of the most successful and prosperous in the State.

FLOYD

This county is one of the three—Floyd, Carroll and Grayson—that form the garden plateau of Southwest Virginia, and was taken from Montgomery county in 1831 while the Hon. John Floyd was Governor of Virginia, hence its name, and lies between the Alleghany and Blue Ridge mountains 225 miles southwest from Richmond and is near the southern boundary line of the State. Only a small portion of Patrick county separates it from North Carolina.

The surface is rolling, and in some parts mountainous. The soil is very productive and well adapted to grass. The climate is diversified and remarkably fine, with uniform seasons, especially fine during the summer months, and when rendered more accessible to the outside world by means of a railroad she will become a noted summer resort—without one, she remains the home of a sturdy race of mountaineers, whose farms, being inaccessible to markets, are only producing a tithe of what they might.

Land has increased in value more than 100 per cent. in the last five years, and stock raising is the largest source of revenue. Thousands of fine cattle are shipped each year. Raising of fine horses and sheep is also a notable industry among the farmers of the plateau.

The mineral wealth of the county is of great value. Nearly every part of the surface indicates the presence of ores, such as gold, silver, iron, copper, lead, graphite, asbestos, soapstone, nickel and arsenic. Copper, iron, nickel, gold and arsenic have been successfully worked. Floyd has the marked distinction of having within her boundaries the only arsenic mine in North America, and is now making large shipments of this product to various parts of the world. The New York and Virginia Copper Company, a corporation composed of New York capitalists, have their valuable plant in this county about seven miles southwest of the county seat, and have been operating for several years. This corporation has a capital of \$2,500,000.00. The mines are very rich in copper and iron, with showing of gold and arsenic.

Many sections of the county are still covered with a fine virgin forest, embracing about one-half of the area of the county. The more valuable species are walnut, poplar, oak, hickory, ash, pine, maple, and chestnut. These timbers are being rapidly converted into lumber by the numerous saw mills in operation in the county.

Other advantages and attractions, briefly enumerated, are good mail facilities, excellent freestone water, churches, public schools, high school; financial conditions excellent, with not a dollar of indebtedness, with the people industrious, frugal and enterprising.

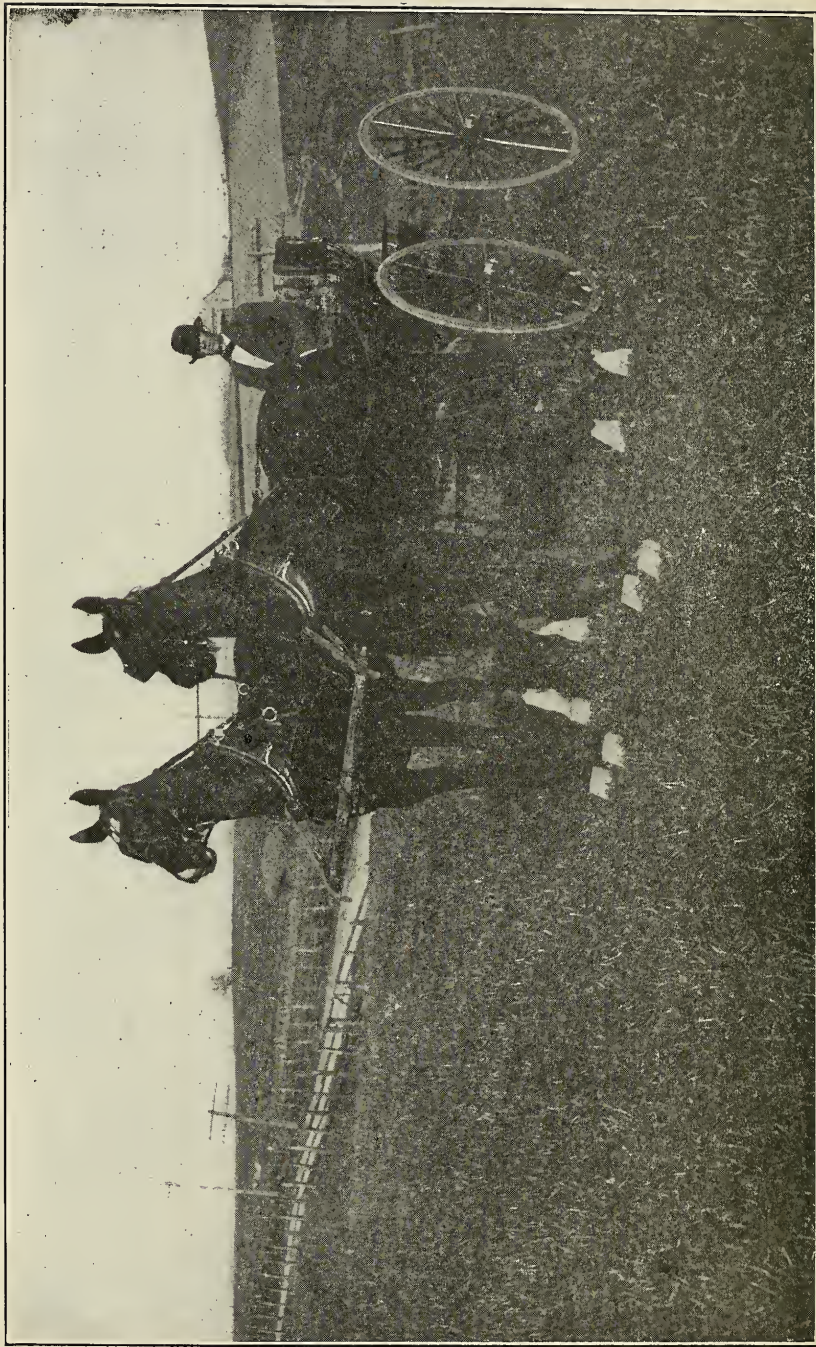
Floyd, the county seat, is situated near the centre of the county.

Population, census 1910, 14,092.

FLUVANNA

This county was organized in 1777. It lies on the north bank of James river near the centre of the State, fifty-seven miles northwest of Richmond.

This county is nearly square and contains 289 square miles. Average size farms, 250 acres. Bottom lands on the water courses are the most valuable. Surface generally rolling, self-draining and easy to cultivate, with all sorts of every variety and capacity of productiveness, from the richest alluvial bottoms, often skirted



High-grade driving horses will always sell well. The farmer should endeavor to raise the kind of live stock that suits his market and the kind he likes the best to handle.

by heavy productive clay soils, to the less productive ridges between the rivers. In the eastern part of the county the lands are, in the main, of a gray granite soil, while in the western portion is a heavier, closer, in the main red clay soil mixed with quartz rock, both of which readily respond to generous treatment. The flat lands along the James, Rivanna and Hardware rivers, and the many creeks which traverse the county, are very fertile and productive, yielding large crops of wheat, corn and hay; and perhaps the finest grain belt known to this country includes the lower part of this county.

The products of the county are wheat, corn, oats, rye, grass, fruit and tobacco, the latter of which is the most important and profitable. The soil and climate seem to be especially adapted to the growth of tobacco, large quantities—over a million pounds—being produced annually, embracing not only the famous suncured, but the finest grade of shipping and mahogany wrappers. For fruits, large and small, and vegetables of all kinds the soil and climate are well adapted. Grasses of various kinds do well. Herds grass—red top—is in some localities indigenous, and red clover, timothy and orchard grass grow luxuriously on good soil, or when properly treated with manures, ashes or commercial fertilizers.

Its rolling and well-drained lands, pure water and mild climate make it peculiarly fitted for sheep; also, fine herds of cattle are to be found in different sections of the county.

The James River Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad passes along the entire southern border of the county and gives easy and quick communication with the cities east and west, and the Virginia Air Line, passing through the centre of the county, gives additional communication with the cities east and west, and also quick communication with Washington and the cities north.

The county is believed to be rich in various minerals—gold, silver, copper, talc, soapstone, iron, building stone, slate, etc. They are, in the main, undeveloped. Indications are so favorable as, in the opinion of skilled mineralogists, to promise rich results. Dr. Watson, the State geologist, has recently made a special and favorable report on the slate and building stones of this county. Tellurium, the oldest gold mine in Virginia, is situated in this county.

There is also much valuable timber, such as oak, poplar, pine, hickory, etc.

Palmyra, the county seat, is a small but growing village, located in the centre of the county on the Rivanna river, and on the Virginia Air Line railroad. It contains wheat and corn mills, a normal high school, newspaper, churches, stores, etc.

Fork Union, situated on the south side of the county, near the Virginia Air Line railroad, has a flourishing military academy, and is quite a tobacco centre.

This county was formed from Henry and Bedford in 1784, and lies at the eastern base of the Blue Ridge mountains, in the southern part of the State, 140 miles southeast of Richmond.

FRANKLIN

It is thirty miles long and about twenty miles wide, containing an area of 690 square miles. Farms average in size 150 acres.

The surface is rolling, and in some parts mountainous. The soil, chiefly a red clay, is very fertile. This is one of the most productive of the Piedmont counties, producing large crops of wheat, corn, rye, oats, hay and tobacco, especially the latter; nearly all the landholders being tobacco planters to a considerable extent. The region is unexcelled for growing all the fruits for which this Piedmont section is noted, such as apples, pears, peaches, plums, apricots, cherries, grapes, etc. First prizes were awarded at the Buffalo, St. Louis and Jamestown Expositions on the Pippin apples grown in Franklin.

Dairy products and poultry also pay well, market advantages being very good. Grazing facilities are not fully developed, but are very good, and considerable attention is paid to raising stock for the markets, and also horses. Milch cows and other cattle are shipped in large numbers.

Railroads are the Franklin and Pittsylvania and the Norfolk and Western, which crosses the county from north to south, furnishing ample facilities for transportation.

Minerals of this county are iron, asbestos, mica, granite and soapstone, the principal of which is iron, which is found in inexhaustible quantities, and is the only one that has been successfully worked.

Timber of the various kinds is abundant, the most valuable being oak, poplar, pine, hickory, walnut, and chestnut. Furniture factories, stave mills, and a large number of steam saw mills are in operation turning this timber to profitable account.

Rivers are the Staunton, on the northeast border, and the Pig and the Blackwater, with their numerous tributaries, which afford ample drainage and excellent water power, as is evidenced by the flour mills, some saw mills, and woodworking establishments located on them.

The climate is mild, the water unsurpassed, and the health of the county excellent. A large number of churches represent the different denominations, and mail facilities are very fine.

Population, census of 1910, 26,480.

The people are generous, hospitable and progressive, and the stranger who comes to make his home amongst them receives a hearty welcome.

Rocky Mount is the county seat. Its altitude is 1,132 feet.

FREDERICK This county was formed in 1738 from Orange. It is the northernmost county of the State, at the head of the Shenandoah valley, 116 miles from Richmond. It is twenty miles long and about eighteen miles wide, and has an area of 425 square miles.

The middle part of the county is interspersed with frequent mountain ranges, with valley lands between, but the surface generally is undulating. There are belts of gray slate formation, also of limestone, the latter embracing one of the most productive sections of the State. This is one of the best counties of the famous Valley of Virginia, noted for its fine lands and good farming.

Farm products are wheat, corn, rye, hay and oats, of which fine crops are produced. In the value of orchard products, this county stands very high; some sections have attained considerable notoriety for fine apples, especially near Winchester.

Fruit growing, farming and stock raising constitute most profitable industries, the county having most excellent market advantages. This is one of the finest live stock counties in the State. Horses and cattle, in large numbers, and of superior quality, are raised and shipped to northern markets.

The railroads are the Valley branch of the Baltimore and Ohio, the Southern, Norfolk and Western, and the Cumberland Valley, extending from Winchester to Pennsylvania, affording a great through route of travel and traffic from east to northeast to the south and southwest, as well as most excellent facilities for trade and travel northward.

Minerals are iron, coal and limestone. The iron is found in North mountain, in large quantity and good quality. The coal is of the anthracite formation. Timbers are oak, hickory, walnut, pine, locust and ash, and are fairly good in quality, especially in the limestone belt.

The public roads and turnpikes are exceptionally good.

There are numerous fine mineral springs in the county, the principal of which are the Rock Enon Springs and the Jordan White Sulphur, which have an extended reputation and are liberally patronized.



VA. DEPT. AGR.

A shipment of early spring lambs passing through the fertile valley of Monterey, Virginia. Spring lambs and blue grass will smite a mortgage.

Climate is healthful and salubrious, and water unsurpassed, with its numerous clear streams and copious springs. Churches are numerous, and schools are of a high order, the county having been long known for its superior educational advantages. Telephone service and mail facilities are excellent. The financial condition of the county is good, with no public debt, while in progress and general advancement there has been a marked improvement in the past few years. Population of county, by census of 1910, not including city of Winchester, 12,786. This is the county seat, a prosperous city, the second in importance in the great Valley of Virginia. (See cities of Virginia.)

Frederick county is now conceded to be the largest apple-growing county in the State of Virginia.

The crop in the fall of 1910 was two hundred and fifty thousand barrels, for which one-half million dollars was received by the fruit growers of the county.

The soil is of the very best for apple growing and there is always a ready sale for the apples, and they are known as good keepers, and a great many are bought for exportation.

This county was formed in 1806 from Monroe and Tazewell, and was named in honor of the Honorable W. B. Giles, representative in Congress from this State, 1790-1802, and Governor of Virginia in 1827. It lies on the western border of the State, about 185 miles southwest

GILES

from Richmond, and has an area of 349 square miles.

All its borders, north, south, east and west, are mountainous; the middle rolling, about fifty per cent. of area being under cultivation. The soil is limestone and clay, and generally very fertile.

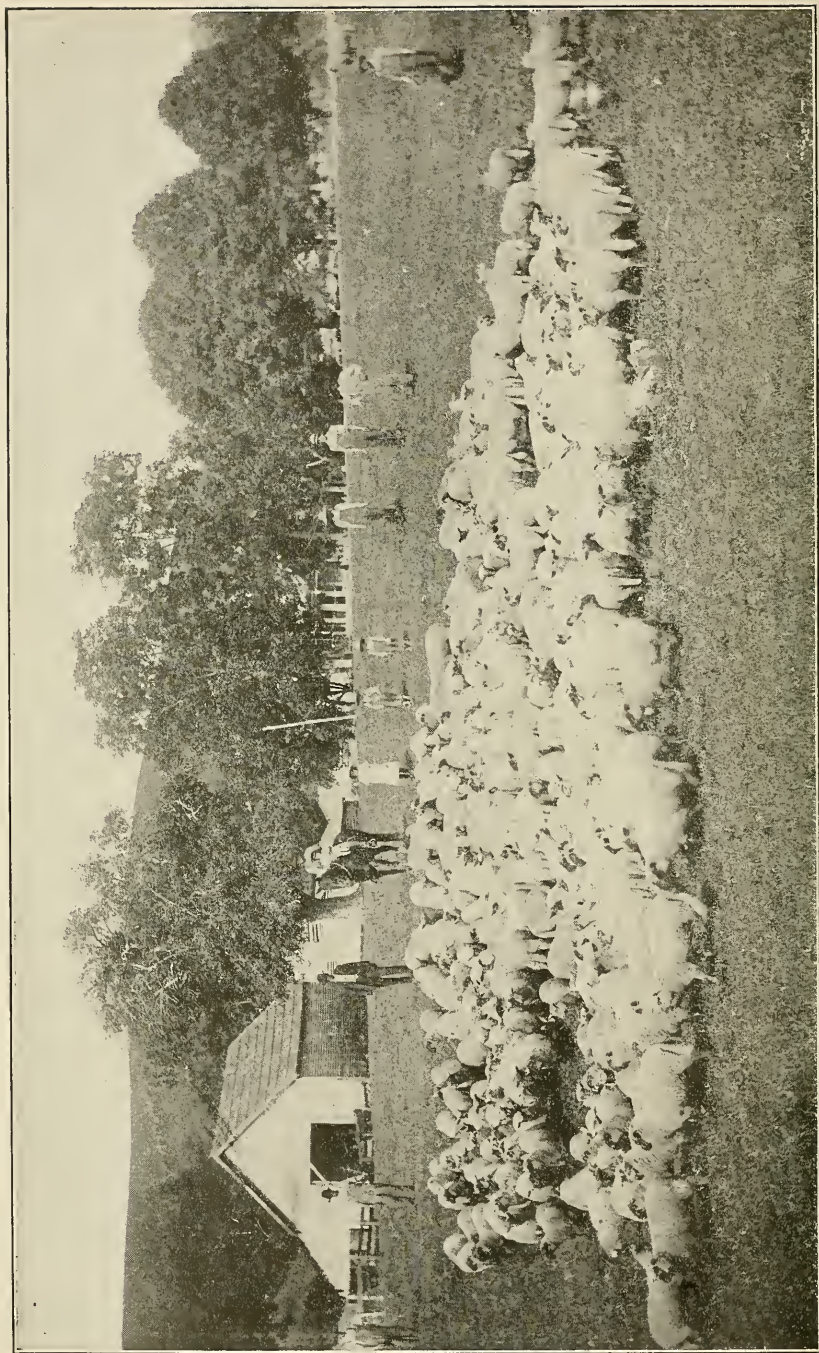
Products are corn, wheat, rye, oats, hay, etc. The crop of maple sugar, syrup, and sorghum is worthy of mention, especially the sorghum. This county is well adapted to the growth of fruit, and considerable attention is being paid to this industry, especially to the apple crop, large quantities of which are shipped, and add greatly to the revenues of the people; also grape culture is coming to be very extensive, and the cherry grows in great abundance, being apparently a native of this climate and soil. Some very fine peaches are grown, and in large quantity, when proper attention is given to their culture and protection from the borer. All these fruits and berries, besides vegetables of all kinds, which grow to great perfection, find a ready and remunerative market in the coal fields nearby.

From the same source there is a constant demand for the dairy products, butter and cheese; also poultry and eggs, large quantities of which are produced.

This county is also splendidly adapted to grazing and the production of hay. All the grasses do well, and in some sections blue grass grows spontaneously. As a result of these favorable conditions, livestock raising is one of the most important industries of the county. Large numbers of fine fat cattle and lambs are annually shipped to the northern and eastern markets, and some of the former sold for the export trade. This is an exceedingly fine corn county, which renders the pork and bacon product very valuable.

Railroads are the New River division of the Norfolk and Western and two lateral lines, one the Big Stony, extending up Big Stony creek a distance of twelve or fifteen miles; the other, the New River, Holston and Western.

The minerals of the county are destined, at no distant day, to be the source of the greatest wealth. Iron of fine quality is found in almost every section of the county, with manganese, zinc, lead, barytes, and variegated marble have been found; limestone, especially along the river and railroad, in quantity and quality for building purposes or lime.



Virginia lambs ready for the market.

No description of this county would be complete without a reference to its notable physical features as displayed in its grand mountains and magnificent scenery. Toward the central part of the county is the lofty and beautiful Angel's Rest, about 4,000 feet above sea level and 2,000 feet above the river below.

Opposite to Angel's Rest, on the northeast side of the river, is Butte mountain, of the same general formation and elevation. Flanking the latter on the south is the Salt Pond mountain, with its Bald Knob towering nearly 5,000 feet above the sea. Answering this mountain in position is the Sugar Run mountain on the opposite or southwest side. Toward the southern side of the county are the important iron-bearing parallel series composed of Spruce, John's Creek and Gap mountains on the northeast side of New river, and of Buckeye, Guinea and Walker's mountains on the southwest side of the river, Gap mountain and Walker's mountain answering to each other in line of continuation. But the most noted and the grandest scenery of all is Mountain Lake and the Cascades, and Bald Knob, near by. Mountain Lake is a celebrated health and pleasure resort on the top of Salt Pond mountain, and truly it may be called the silver gem of the Alleghanies, as it is almost on the summit of the highest mountain of Virginia, at an elevation of more than 4,000 feet above the sea. Besides the pure mountain air and water, its chief attraction is a lake of clear, transparent water three-quarters of a mile long by one-half mile wide, with a surface area of about 250 acres and an average depth of about sixty feet. Another notable point in this galaxy of sublime scenery is Bald Knob, three-fourths of a mile in the rear of Mountain Lake, and 500 feet higher; so high that scarcely anything grows on the lofty summit, from which landmarks of five different States are visible.

In climate, health and water, this county ranks with the most favored portions of the State; churches are numerous and well attended; schools excellent, public and graded; mail facilities and telephone service reach to every section of the county; financial condition highly favorable. The people are moral, sober, industrious, enterprising, and proud of their county, which is fast becoming one of the most progressive in the State, as evidenced by its rapidly increasing population.

Pearisburg, the county seat, is situated in the shadow, almost, of the beautiful Angel's Rest, one mile from Pearisburg station on the Norfolk and Western railroad, and has a population, by census of 1900, of 464—an increase since census of 1890 of 123. It contains churches of different denominations, public and graded schools, hotels, stores, several fraternal orders, a bank, newspaper, etc. Its altitude is 1,547 feet. Area of county, 349 square miles.

Other towns in the county are Narrows, Newport, Staffordsville, Eggleston, and other business points of some importance. The first two named are large business centres, vieing with the county seat in importance and population.

Population of county, census of 1910, 11,623.

This county was formed in 1661, from York, and named after Gloucestershire, in England, from which place most of the earliest settlers of the county came. It is located in the eastern part of the State, thirty-eight miles from Richmond. It is twenty-seven miles long and eight miles wide, and contains 253 square miles.

On the water courses the lands are low and level; further back they are higher and gently undulating, but no portion of the county is very far from deep water. The proportion of cultivated land to the area is from one-fourth to one-third. The soil is generally a sandy loam, with rich alluvial lands along its many streams.

Farm products are hay, corn, oats, rye and wheat, but tobacco and

peanuts can be profitably grown. The soil and climate are admirably adapted to trucking, the principal crops of which are Irish and sweet potatoes, peas, cantaloupes, watermelons, etc. Fruit culture is receiving more attention and will prove very profitable with intelligent care. All the fruits are grown to some extent, but the most profitable are pears, grapes, and strawberries.

Market advantages are good. Produce shipped in the evening is on the Baltimore market next morning; also, Norfolk and Richmond are good markets for this section.

Owing to the great extent of water front, Gloucester is probably more largely engaged in oyster planting than any of the counties of the oyster section, and the quality of her oysters ranks with the best. The fisheries of the county are also very extensive and valuable, employing large capital and labor, and bringing to the citizens and the State large revenue. A very large proportion of the people derive a livelihood almost entirely from the water, and its products may be considered the most important and profitable industries of the county.

Increased attention is being given to the raising of stock and the cultivation of the grasses, for which the lowgrounds are well adapted, and they also succeed very well on the uplands.

Population, census of 1910, 12,477.

Gloucester, the county seat, is located on Mobjack bay, an arm of the Chesapeake, and is a small country village containing carriage and harness shops, lodge of Masons and daily mail communications.

This county has some of the finest estates in Virginia, and, in antebellum days, was noted for its wealth and refinement. It is also noted as having been the place of the death and burial of Nathaniel Bacon, the leader of the rebellion against Governor Sir William Berkley in 1676. It is furthermore claimed to have been in this county, on the York, that Pocahontas saved the life of Captain John Smith.

GOOCHLAND

This county was formed in 1727 from Henrico, and named in honor of one of Virginia's colonial governors. This is a central county, and lies along the northern bank of James river, a distance of about forty miles. It is situated thirteen miles west of Richmond.

Thirty miles long and about ten miles wide, it has an area of 296 square miles. Its surface is undulating. Its soil is a gray or chocolate loam, with stiff red clay subsoil, and on the water courses is very rich and productive. The uplands, though not so good, are easily improved and are well adapted to tobacco.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, tobacco, and hay; corn, wheat and tobacco being the chief—especially the last two. Fruits and vegetables of the usual varieties are produced to a considerable extent, especially grapes, to which much of the land is admirably adapted. Market advantages are good, by rail and market carts, to Richmond. Clover and timothy do well, and more attention is being paid to the cultivation of grasses and the introduction of improved stock.

The James River Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, following the windings of James river on the southern border of the county for over forty miles, furnishes ample and convenient transportation facilities.

Minerals are gold, coal, iron, mica and plumbago. Several of the gold and coal mines are being worked; also a fine mica mine near Irwin Station, in the lower end of the county. Petroleum, or naphtha, has been found, and the indications are that the oil is in considerable quantities. Mineral waters are alkaline, chalybeate, sulphur, iron and lithia, the most important of which are the fine mineral springs of East Lake.

Timbers are oak, hickory, walnut, pine, poplar, chestnut, cedar, locust and ash. They are limited in quantity, but of fine quality.

The climate is salubrious and healthful; water first-class; churches and public schools numerous; telephone service and mail facilities very good.

Population, census of 1910, 9,237.

Goochland Courthouse, the county seat, is located in the southern part of the county, thirty miles west of Richmond, and is one mile north of Maiden's Adventure depot, James River Division Chesapeake and Ohio railway. It is a small country village; its nearest market, Richmond. There are no other towns in the county. Altitude, 143 feet.

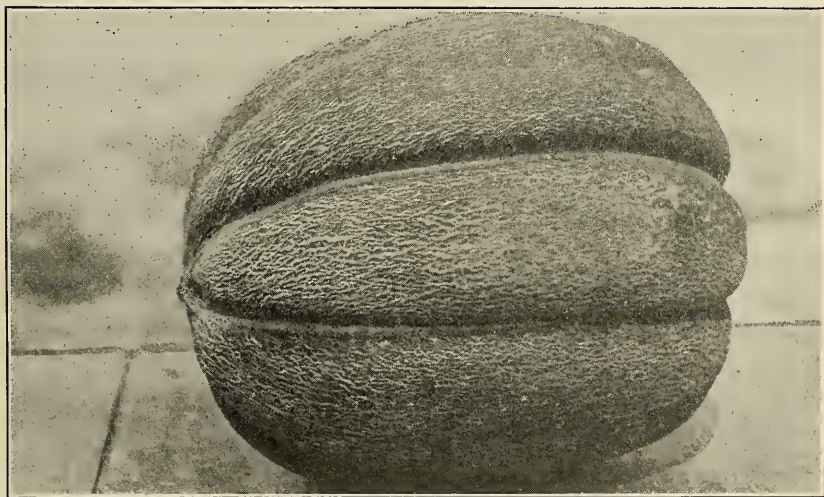
Owing to the favorable location of this county, its proximity to Richmond—the capital city—cheap lands, fine climate and water, it offers many inducements for immigration and investment, and realizing the opportunities presented, many northern parties have purchased lands and settled in this county and are much pleased.

This county was formed in 1793 from Wythe, and named in honor of Honorable William Grayson, who was a member of the Virginia Convention of 1788, which adopted the Federal Constitution. It is situated on the southern border of the State, 265 miles southwest from

GRAYSON

the city of Richmond.

It contains 438 square miles. The western portion is mountainous, but the central and eastern parts lie in a fertile valley, and comprise



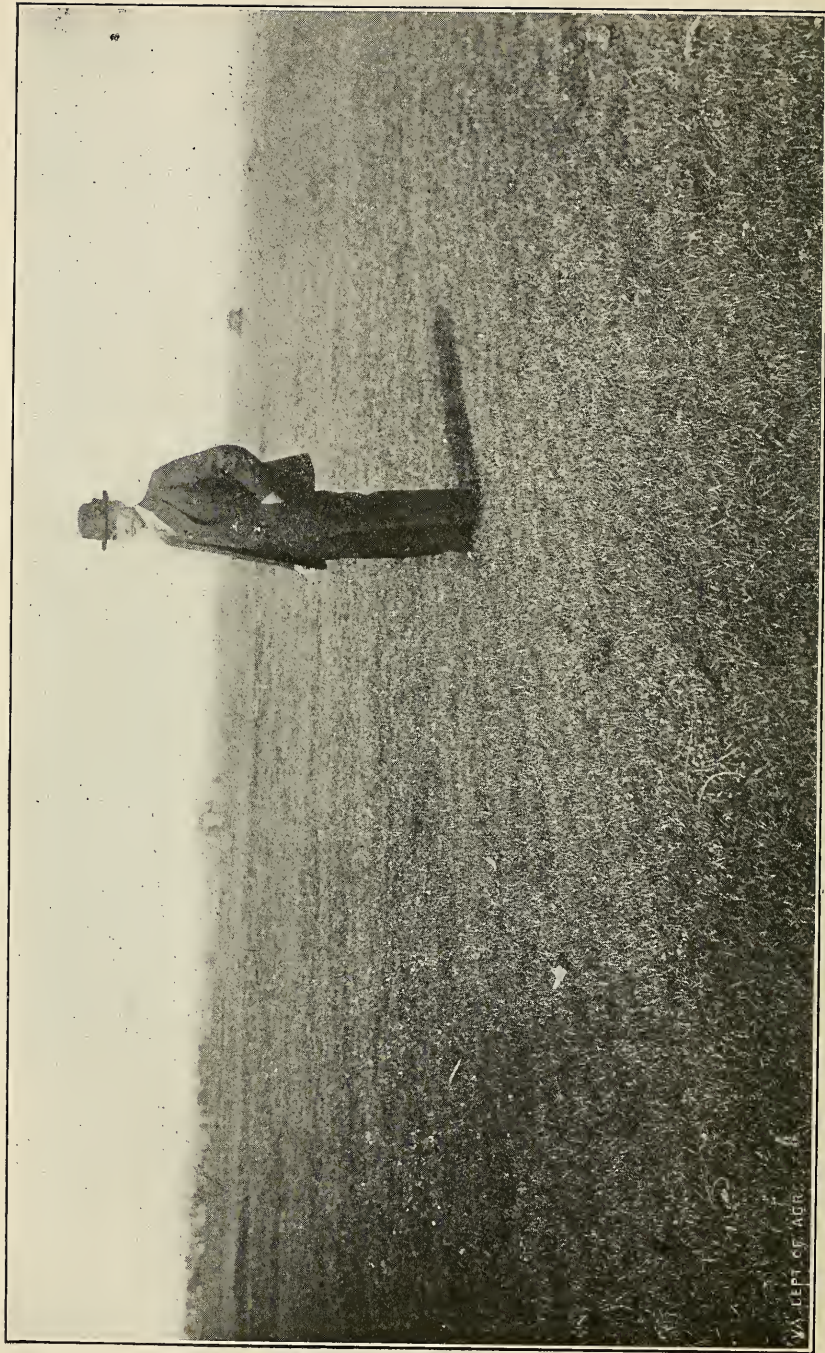
The luscious cantaloupe grows everywhere in Virginia.

a fine farming section. About forty per cent. of the land is in cultivation. The soil is loam and gray granite, with clay subsoil and quite fertile.

Farm products are wheat, corn, rye, oats, buckwheat, etc., also a large quantity of bacon is annually sold. This is an exceedingly fine fruit county, varieties such as the apple, pear, peach, quince, cherry, plum, grape, etc., grow to great perfection. It seems to be the native home of the apple, which is noted for superior flavor and excellence.

This is a good grass section, producing a considerable amount of hay, and having excellent grazing facilities. The county is rapidly coming to the front in the raising of stock, large numbers of cattle, sheep and other live stock being sold every year.

Of the counties lying on the Blue Ridge plateau, with their almost



A magnificent stand of young timothy; seed was sown in July. This photo was taken December 1st. Notice the height of the young timothy.

immeasurable mineral wealth, this is one of the most important, with its varied deposits of gold, silver, iron, copper, lead, mica, asbestos, granite, limestone and freestone. Of these, iron, copper, granite and asbestos are the most important.

Timber is very abundant and of great variety, such as poplar, oak, pine, walnut, hickory, chestnut, ash, etc.

This county is splendidly watered by New river and its numerous tributaries. The streams are especially adapted to every species of game fish. The mountain trout is very common in nearly all the streams, and the famous New river catfish reaches its highest perfection in these waters.

Grayson may be considered not only one of the best watered counties in the State, but as having the finest water power, New river furnishing more than a thousand horse-power per mile, according to government survey, and all the creeks affording excellent power, every mile or two, for purposes of milling and manufacturing.

This county has the distinction of having the highest mountains in the State, the Balsam, or Mount Rogers, being the highest, and White Top the next in altitude, 5,530 feet above sea level; and for natural scenery it is not surpassed in the State. Added to its other attractions are numerous fine sulphur springs.

This county has made rapid progress in the past few years in the construction of good, commodious and up-to-date school-houses and churches.

Several high schools, as well as the public school system, are in a prosperous condition. Telephone service and mail facilities of the county are very good; financial condition favorable, and the people imbued with a spirit of enterprise and progress.

Total population, census of 1910, 19,856.

Independence, the county seat, is a country village of about 200 inhabitants, situated in a fertile valley on a branch of New river, a little east of the centre of the county. It has several hotels, churches, stores, a saddlery, smith shops, two fraternal orders, two newspapers, and a public school.

This county was formed in 1838 from the western part of Orange, and was named after General Nathaniel Greene, of the Revolution. It is situated in the north central part of the State, sixty-six miles northwest from Richmond, and lies on the eastern slope of the Blue

GREENE

Ridge mountains.

It contains 150 square miles. Average size of farms is 150 acres; mountain lands cheap. The surface is mountainous or hilly, and about one-third in cultivation; the soil red and gray loam and very fertile, producing corn, wheat, oats, rye tobacco, and the grasses. Fruits, such as apples, peaches, pears, cherries, and the smaller kinds, are raised in considerable abundance, and of good quality, and, in fact, may properly be termed the county's most profitable industry. The county is also admirably adapted to raising stock, especially sheep.

The Southern railroad runs within a few miles of the eastern border of the county. The Rockingham turnpike, macadamized from Harrisonburg to Gordonsville, passes directly through the county, and affords ample facilities for the farmers in getting their products to the markets.

Minerals are copper and iron, but the lack of convenient transportation has retarded the development of them.

Timber is abundant, consisting of pine, oak, hickory, chestnut, walnut, and poplar, the most merchantable of which are oak and pine. Numerous saw mills and grain mills are in operation. There are several water courses in the county, tributaries of the Rapidan and Rivanna rivers, which afford abundant water power for mills, etc. On the head

waters of South river, in this county, is a very beautiful and romantic cascade, at which the water falls over a precipice 160 feet.

Climate, water and health of the county are exceptionally good; churches and schools numerous and convenient.

Population, census of 1910, 6,937.

Stanardsville, the county seat, is in the central portion of the county, and has a population of about three hundred. It contains several public schools, churches and fraternal orders.

Ruckersville is a small village in the southeastern part of the county.

This county, formed in 1780 from Brunswick, is one of the southern border counties, forty-eight miles south of

GREENSVILLE Richmond, and eighty miles west of the Atlantic ocean.

It contains an area of 288 square miles. About one-third of the land is in cultivation. The surface is level or slightly rolling, the soil generally a sandy loam, easily tilled. The population last census was 11,890.

The farm products are varied and valuable, such as tobacco, corn, wheat, oats, cotton, peanuts, broom corn, and sweet potatoes, the most important of which are cotton and peanuts. Tobacco is also one of the chief staples. Fruits of many varieties are cultivated, especially grapes and the small fruits. Transportation facilities are good. The Atlantic Coast Line railway, the Southern railway and the Seaboard Air Line and Virginian railways traverse the county.

Marl is the only mineral, but it is abundant and valuable as a fertilizer for some of the staple crops, especially peanuts.

Timbers are principally white oak, ash, pine, sycamore, poplar, cedar, hickory and chestnut.

The Nottoway river on the north, and the Meherrin in the centre, with their tributaries, afford an ample water supply and abundance of fish, besides water power for numerous grain mills.

The climate is pleasant and healthful, and not subject to extremes of either heat or cold. Water is good, churches and schools numerous, and the people kind and hospitable.

This county was formed in 1752 from Lunenburg, and is one of the largest and most populous counties in the State. It lies in the heart of the finest tobacco growing section of the State, midway from east to west of the border line, ninety miles southwest from Richmond.

HALIFAX

It contains an area of 806 square miles, about one-third of which is in cultivation. The surface is rolling; soil of the ridge lands is of a soft gray, sandy character; that on the streams is a loam of great fertility.

Farm products are wheat, corn, rye, oats, hay and tobacco. Fruits, vegetables and dairy products are of considerable importance, and prove valuable, with proper care and attention. The chief industry is tobacco growing, and much is of the finest grades of bright wrappers. Almost every farmer is engaged in this line of agriculture.

The raising of fine stock, horses, cattle and sheep, is attracting the attention of the farmers as a source of profit, especially sheep raising, which is being conducted very successfully.

Most excellent railroad facilities are furnished by the Southern, the Lynchburg and Durham and the Atlantic and Danville railroads, which traverse the county in all directions.

Minerals are iron, copper, slate, plumbago, manganese, gold and mica, several of which have been worked to some extent. Gold is profitably mined at Red Bank. Timber is plentiful, such as hickory, oak, pine and poplar.

This section of Virginia has a mean annual temperature of fifty-eight degrees, and the climate is pleasant and healthful. Schools and



No State grows Tobacco of finer quality than Virginia. The 1913 crop sold for twenty-two million dollars.

churches of the various denominations are numerous and convenient; first-class high schools.

Population, census of 1910, 40,044.

Houston, the county seat, is situated on Banister river, and on the Lynchburg and Durham division of the Norfolk and Western railway. It is a thriving town of over seven hundred inhabitants, surrounded by a fertile section of the county. It contains two flouring mills; also, numerous churches, schools, a high school, two banks, a newspaper, and a lodge of Masons.

HANOVER

This county was formed in 1720 from New Kent, and lies in the central part of the State, between the Pamunky and Chickahominy rivers, five miles north of Richmond, and contains 478 square miles. Surface is level in eastern part, and undulating in central and

western portions.

Soil, light sandy, or gray loam, river lands very productive and valuable, yielding fine crops of corn, oats and wheat, and well adapted to trucking. Sweet potatoes and melons, for which the county is noted, attain here their highest perfection. The higher land in the central and western portion is especially suited to the culture of tobacco and the grasses. Considerable attention is paid to fruit culture. Several large canneries for fruits and vegetables are in successful operation. Trucking is extensively and profitably carried on, and a considerable number of the farmers make dairying and poultrying a prominent and successful part of their occupation. Truck farming may be considered the most profitable industry of the county, the more valuable on account of the proximity to the Richmond city market and others.

This is not, strictly speaking, a stock and grazing county, but it produces many fine blooded horses and cattle, and winter feeding of fat stock is carried on successfully.

Railroads are the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac, and the Chesapeake and Ohio.

Minerals are mica, feldspar, asbestos, phosphate of lime, and gneiss; also marl of several varieties and greensand are found here in large quantities and are very profitably used on the lands.

Timbers are oak, pine, hickory, ash, elm, and poplar. Considerable quantities of lumber, cross-ties and cord wood are marketed.

The county is abundantly watered by the North and South Anna, Pamunky and Chickahominy rivers and their branches.

At Ashland, Randolph-Macon College is located, one of the oldest and most noted schools in the State, besides a graded school of a high order; and while mainly a residential town, with many fine homes, it has an excellent trade and considerable business operations.

Population of county, census of 1910, 17,200.

This sketch would be incomplete without reference to Hanover as having been the birthplace of both Patrick Henry and Henry Clay, two of the most eminent orators and statesmen this country has ever produced.

This county was one of the original shires into which Virginia was divided in 1634. It is situated at the head of tidewater, on the north side of the James river, which divides it from Chesterfield, and south of the Chickahominy, which separates it from Hanover.

HENRICO

Its length is twenty-seven miles, mean breadth about eight miles, and it contains 273 square miles, the greater portion of which is in cultivation. The river lands are the most productive, best improved, and command the highest prices. The surface is undulating; the soil, varying from light loam to stiff clay, is susceptible of a high state of cultivation. The lands upon the James river are generally alluvial, of a deep chocolate color, and are among the best wheat lands of the State.

The city of Richmond divides the county into two nearly equal parts.

Farm products are varied and extensive, consisting principally of corn, oats, wheat and tobacco; also barley and rye are raised to some extent. The grasses, clover and timothy, succeed well, and hay is an important crop.

There are many large nurseries, orchards and vineyards in the county, and considerable attention is given to this line of industry. There are also a number of dairy and poultry farms adjacent to the city of Richmond that do a large and successful business. Market-gardening and trucking are very extensively carried on, and rank as perhaps the most profitable industries of the county. This county, with Richmond in the centre and four railroads traversing it, has very superior market advantages. There is nothing that a farmer cannot sell at fair prices.

Timbers are pine, oak, ash, maple, cedar, hickory, walnut, chestnut and cypress. These are quite limited in quantity, but the proximity of the coal and lumber yards of Richmond obviates, to a great extent, any inconvenience that might arise from the scarcity of fuel and timber.

James river, on the southern border, and the Chickahominy on the northern, with their tributaries, furnish abundant water supply and drainage. The lower portion of the county enjoys the advantages afforded by water navigation on the James, and also its excellent shad, herring and sturgeon fisheries.

The climate is mild and healthful, and water abundant and good.

This county enjoys exceptional educational advantages, with its admirable public schools and its close proximity to the high schools and colleges of Richmond. Churches of all denominations are distributed over the county, and telephone and mail facilities are ample and convenient. The public roads are carefully looked after, and much improvement is shown in this very important particular. On account of location, social advantages, and in many other respects, some of which have been briefly alluded to, Henrico offers to homeseekers superior advantages. Realizing the favorable opportunities presented, quite a large number of foreigners, chiefly Germans, have located in the county, which is indicated to some extent by the largely increased population, as shown below.

Population, census of 1910, 23,437.

Richmond, the county seat, the capital of the State, is situated on the border of the county, on the north bank of the James river, at the head of tidewater. It is a most attractive city, having extensive commerce, trade and manufactories, and is the chief market of the State.

This county was formed in 1777 from Pittsylvania, and named in honor of Patrick Henry. It is situated on the southern border of the State, 180 miles southwest from Richmond.

HENRY

It is nearly a square of eighteen miles, and contains 425 square miles. Surface is undulating, and in parts hilly and mountainous. One-third of the land is in cultivation. Soil, a red clay and fertile, producing a good crop of corn, oats, rye, wheat and tobacco. The last is the staple crop, over 3,000,000 pounds of the finest bright quality being raised annually. The numerous tobacco curing barns scattered over sections of the county give the appearance there of a continuous country village. The varieties of tobacco grown in Henry are noted for their superior quality, and quality considered, this is one of the finest tobacco counties in America. The soil is well adapted to the production of sweet potatoes, which yield largely under good cultivation.

Grass does well in this soil, and numbers of horses, cattle and sheep of fine breeds are grown.

Fruits of the usual kinds do well, especially apples, peaches and

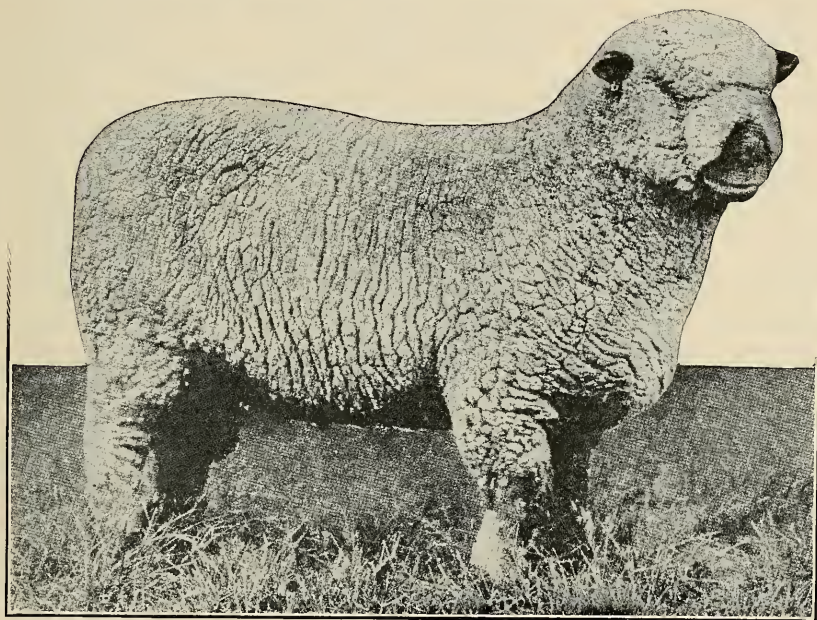
grapes; also, nectarines, apricots, and figs have been grown. Dairy and garden products are varied and valuable.

The county is traversed from north to south and from east to west by its lines of railway, the Danville and Western and the Norfolk and Western, which furnish ready means of communication to the markets, giving impetus to its agriculture and trade.

Limestone, mica, asbestos, granite, soapstone and allanite are found in paying qualities, and the iron ore is inexhaustible. There are also chalybeate and alum waters, but undeveloped.

This county compares favorably with other sections of the State in its timber supply, the most numerous and valuable species being pine, oak, poplar and hickory.

Smith and Mayo rivers, with their numerous branches, afford an am-



A fine Shropshire Down Ram—Sheep Husbandry is very profitable in Virginia.

ple water supply and good water power. Numerous flour mills and saw mills, and an agricultural implement factory and leather factory are located on these waters. There are also a number of tobacco factories in different portions of the county that are doing a large and successful business.

The climate is salubrious, with comparatively mild winters and pleasant summers; health good, with no section of the State freer from malaria; water excellent with perennial streams of the freestone water in all parts of the county; churches and schools numerous and convenient.

Population, census of 1910, 18,459.

Martinsville is the county seat.



It will make any farmer feel glad to grow a field of Crimson Clover like Mr. Bellwood's 100 acres, as shown on the above field of Crimson Clover.

HIGHLAND

This county, formed in 1847 from Bath and Pendleton counties, is northwest from Richmond about 150 miles. It is nearly a square of about twenty miles each way, and contains 407 square miles. The surface is mountainous with very fertile valleys between. The mountains furnish fine range for young stock and sheep, upon which they grow and thrive well. About one-fourth of the land is in cultivation. The soil is mainly limestone.

Farm products are wheat, corn, oats, rye, buckwheat, butter, honey, cheese, dried fruits and maple sugar, leading the State in the last product, and fourth in buckwheat. The western portion of the county produces abundant crops of grass and hay wherever cleared, blue grass not inferior to that of the best lands of Kentucky being indigenous to this soil. The grazing quality of the land can hardly be surpassed in the State; some of the best cattle marketed east and north are fattened in this county and taken right off the grass, no corn feeding needed, and large numbers are sold each year, some for the export trade. It is also splendidly adapted to sheep, large numbers of which are grown. Apples, pears, peaches and all fruits suited to this latitude can, with proper care and attention, be grown in this county. Agriculture, combined with stock growing and grazing, are the most profitable industries.

There is no railroad in the county, though one or more have been chartered and are now in process of location. The nearest railroad station is Bartow, on the west side of the Alleghany mountains, twenty-three miles.

Population of county, census of 1910, 5,317.

Monterey, the county seat, is located in the central portion of the county, forty-six miles from Staunton and Parkersburg turnpike. It is a very pretty, busy little town of 246 inhabitants, and each year new buildings are being erected. It has an excellent, modern water and sewer system and an electric light plant. Two handsome churches, two banks, two steam factories for the manufacture of lumber for building purposes—sash, doors, etc.—and it contains, besides, two mills, seven stores, newspaper, excellent schools and fraternal orders, one of which, the Masonic, is now erecting a six-thousand-dollar temple. Monterey is becoming famed as a summer and health resort. It now has a new hotel of twenty-six rooms, and another is to be erected during the present year.

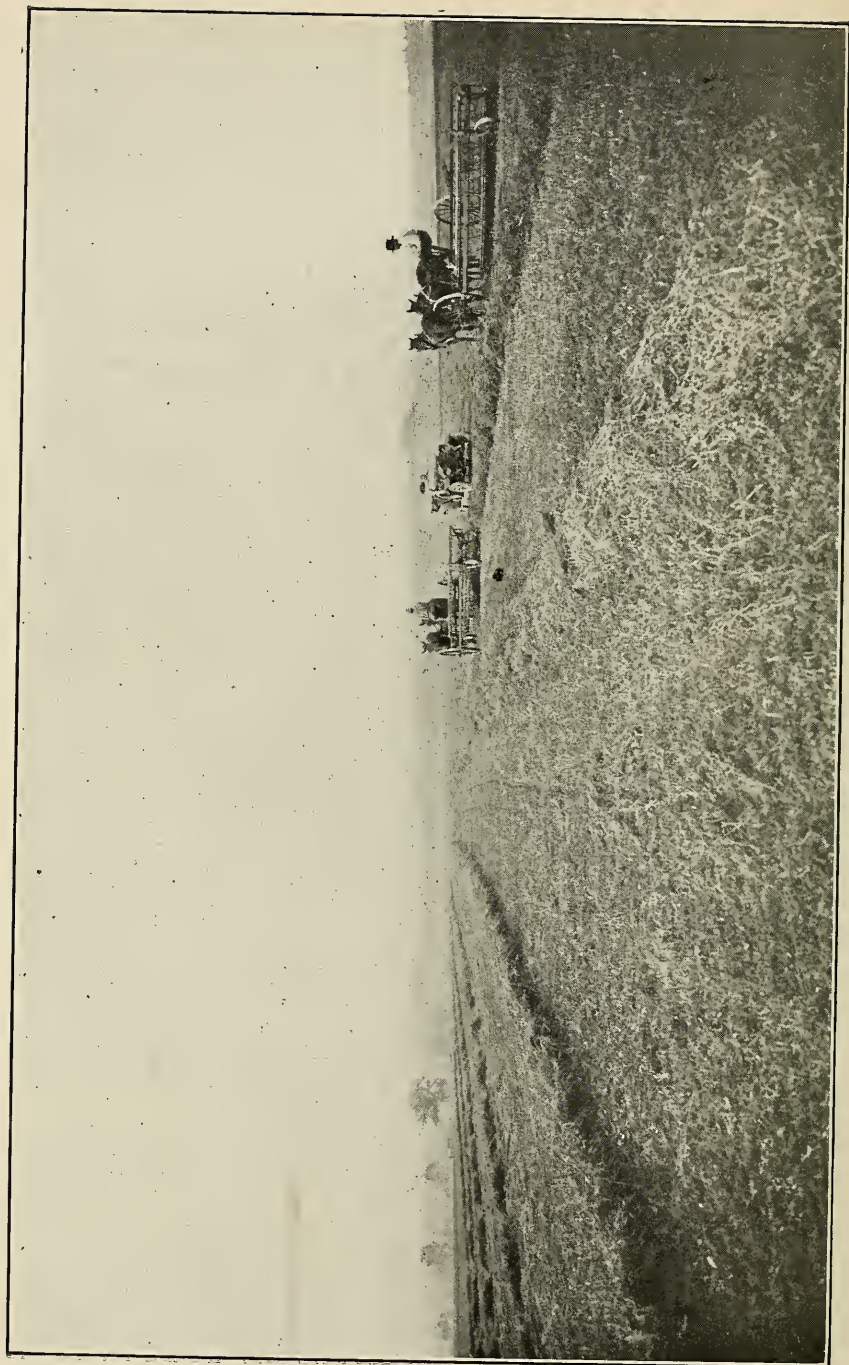
ISLE OF WIGHT

This county was one of the original shires into which Virginia was divided in 1634. It is situated on the south side of the lower James river, ninety-eight miles southeast of Richmond, but only fifty-miles air line, and extends from the James river, its northern boundary, to within eight miles of the North Carolina line.

It is thirty-five miles long, with a mean width of about ten miles, and contains an area of 352 square miles. The surface is generally level, the soil from gray medium to light sandy loam, easily tilled and productive.

Farm products are corn, oats, peanuts and potatoes. All the large and small fruits, melons and vegetables find here a soil and climate admirably adapted to their growth and perfection. Large quantities of these are shipped from this county to the northern cities.

Poultry succeeds well, embracing everything from turkey to the guinea fowl; and game is abundant, the streams furnishing geese, ducks, swans the other water fowls; the swamps, sora, woodcock and snipe. The fish and oyster industry is large and valuable; large quantities of fish are taken in the spring and shipped to northern markets. Trucking is extensively engaged in, especially in the eastern portion of the county. This industry, its fisheries, and its peanut crop, constitute the most important productions of the county. Of stocks raised, hogs are the most important, of which it



A field of splendid Alfalfa ready for the loaders.

produces a considerable number. The Smithfield hams have a world-wide reputation.

Population, census of 1910, 14,929.

Isle of Wight, the county seat, is located near the center of the county, about eight miles from Windsor and seven from Smithfield; its nearest markets are Suffolk and Norfolk. Windsor station is also a town of some importance on the Norfolk and Western railroad.

This county was one of the original shires into which Virginia was divided in 1634; and here, at Jamestown, 1607, was the first settlement by the English in this country. The principal portion of the county lies along the north side of the lower James river, one portion

extending across the peninsula to the York river on the northeast. It is distant from Richmond forty-five miles, and contains an area of 160 square miles.

The surface is generally level, with comparatively a small per cent. in cultivation; soil silicious with a mixture of clay, and naturally fertile.

Farm products are wheat, corn, oats, peanuts and potatoes. Grass succeeds fairly well, especially clover. All the fruits common to this latitude are successfully cultivated; also melons, truck, etc. Trucking is extensively carried on, and is one of the profitable industries of the county.

Those of the rural population not engaged in the cultivation of the soil are employed in oystering and fishing, and these latter may be considered among the most profitable industries of the county. Fish of all the valuable species are very abundant in all the waters, and from York river oysters of fine size and quality are obtained. These industries give employment to a large number of men, and afford desirable articles of food for the inhabitants. In stock, sheep do very well. This county is the largest producer of Irish potatoes on the Virginia peninsula.

Marl is found of good quality and in large quantity, also fine brick and other clays.

The climate is equable, the temperature being so equalized by surrounding large bodies of water that the extremes in summer and winter are avoided. Health is unsurpassed, and water supplied from artesian and ordinary wells is very good. Churches are numerous, representing the different Protestant denominations. Public schools are reasonably convenient to all parts of the county. Telephone service is ample, both local and long-distance, and mail facilities are good. Progress and advancement has been general and rapid. The financial condition is excellent. There are four banks in the county.

Population, census of 1910, 3,624.

Williamsburg, the county seat, is located on the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, in the southern portion of the county, about midway between the York and the James rivers, and is the oldest incorporated city in the State, having been settled in 1632. In 1698 the seat of government was moved from Jamestown to Williamsburg, and it continued the capital until 1779, when it was removed to Richmond.

Williamsburg was once the center of the wealth, fashion and learning of the Old Dominion, the influence of which has left its impress not only upon the inhabitants of the city and surrounding county, but upon the State at large, in the men of State and national reputation that have gone out from its ancient seat of learning. William and Mary College, which is located here, and is the oldest collegiate institute in the United States—with the exception of Harvard College—was founded in 1693, and dates from the time of England's sovereigns, William and Mary, who contributed to its endowment, and for whom it was named. This institution has been three times destroyed by fire, the last time by the Federal soldiers during the late war, but it was rebuilt by private subscription, and is still doing

a noble work. The Eastern State Hospital, founded in 1773, is also located here. It is a State institution with a large number of patients. There are numerous churches, the most noted of which is Burton Parish church, which contains the font from which Pocahontas was baptized; also several fraternal orders, a prosperous high school, and several public and private schools.

In this county are some noted points and relics of antiquity. Of the former, nothing possesses more interest than Jamestown, which was settled May 13, 1607, by Captain John Smith and his companions. Of this deeply interesting spot, little had remained but a churchyard and the ruins of an old church till recently, when in preparation for the Jamestown tercentenary, a handsome new church and hotel have been built. Another curious relic of the past is the old stone house, on Ware creek, a tributary of the York, which is supposed to have been built by Captain John Smith. This county was the scene of two battles fought during the Revolution, the first June 25, 1781, at Spencer's Ordinary; the other near Green Spring, once the elegant home of Sir William Berkeley. It also felt the shock of battle at Fort Magruder during the late war, May 4 and 5, 1862.

KING AND QUEEN

This county was formed in 1691 from New Kent during the reign of William and Mary, on account of which it takes its name. This is an eastern county, thirty miles northeast from Richmond; it lies between the Mattaponi and Piankank tank rivers, and is about sixty miles long by ten miles wide; area, 336 square miles.

Surface along the river is level; the back country undulating the sometimes hilly; about thirty per cent. in cultivation; soil, gray and chocolate loam, and variable in quality and productiveness. Some lands are heavy and stiff; others light. The river lands, which constitute a large part of the area, are very productive, and the extensive beds of marl found here furnish ready and permanent means of improvement.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye and hay. Some of the light lands produce profitable crops of peas, which are also used as a fallow crop. Some good tobacco is raised in the upper portion of the county, and its cultivation is gradually extending. Many of the farmers grow good crops of clover, timothy and orchard grass hay, and stock for domestic use is raised. Sheep husbandry is especially profitable. Fruits and vegetables are in great variety and abundance. The adaptability of the soil and convenient water transportation are rapidly developing fruit culture and truck for markets, especially Irish and sweet potatoes, to which the lands seem specially adapted. These may very profitably be classed as among the most profitable industries of the county.

Fish also, principally shad and herring, constitute a large item in the production and exports of the county, and in the lower parts of the county, on York river, large quantities of the best of oysters are caught, and the business is so profitable as often to engage the attention of the people of that section to the neglect of their agricultural interests.

Population, census of 1910, 9,576.

King and Queen, the county seat, is located in the southern part of the county, near the Mattaponi river. Its nearest market is Richmond.

There is much to recommend this county to the home seeker. Society is good, the people are educated, refined and religious; and there are few sections in which the people live more easily and enjoy a higher standard of comfort than here in the tidewater section of Virginia. The forests furnish game; the rivers the finest of fish, and the land nearly everything else necessary for comfortable subsistence.



A sea of Alfalfa. A portion of a 500-acre Alfalfa field in Virginia; the Alfalfa is crowding the roadway on both sides. The largest Alfalfa farm in the East.

KING GEORGE

This county was formed in 1720 from Richmond county. It lies in the northeastern portion of the State, forty-five miles from Richmond, and forms part of the peninsula known as the Northern Neck.

It is bordered on the north by the Potomac river, which separates it from the State of Maryland, and on the south by the Rappahannock river, which forms the boundary between it and Caroline and Essex, with Westmoreland and the Potomac on the east, and Stafford on the west, and contains an area of 183 square miles.

About fifty per cent. of the land is in cultivation. The surface is rolling, lands generally good, especially on the rivers, and easily cultivated.

Farm products are corn, wheat, alfalfa, tobacco, rye, oats and potatoes, of which considerable quantities are produced. Commercial fertilizers are generally used. Fruits of all kinds yield and pay well in this section, small fruits, grapes, and berries receiving increased attention. The production of truck and vegetables is yearly increasing, the rich river lands being especially adapted to their production. Stock succeeds finely, especially sheep; owing to the mild climate, very little provender is required for them. Poultry raising is a profitable industry.

This county has no railroads, but this deficiency is amply supplied by its splendid water navigation. With the Potomac on its northern border, and the Rappahannock on its southern, it has a frontage of twenty miles on each river at convenient points, upon which steamers and sail vessels touch for freight and passengers to and from Fredericksburg, Alexandria, Washington, Norfolk and Baltimore. Besides the valuable transportation facilities afforded by these streams, they furnish large resources in fish, oysters and wild fowl, the first ranking as one of the most important industries of the county.

Marl of various kinds is found in abundance, and has been successfully used for many years as a fertilizer.

Population, census of 1910, 6,378.

King George, the county seat, is a small village located in the central part of the county.

KING WILLIAM

This county was formed in 1701 from King and Queen, and is situated twenty miles northeast from Richmond, on a narrow peninsula between the Mattaponi and Pamunkey rivers, which unite at West Point to form the York. It is thirty miles long.

with an average of about eight miles in width, and contains an area of 246 square miles.

The lands are now being offered at a very low price, which will not continue any great length of time, as present prices are attracting investors from the North and West.

The surface is level on the rivers; otherwise rolling. About 60 per cent. of the land is under cultivation; the soil generally light chocolate, with clay subsoil, and very productive, especially on and near the rivers.

Farm products are corn, wheat, tobacco, oats, peanuts, peas, potatoes, etc. Clover, timothy, millet, alfalfa and other hay crops do well, and hay may be considered one of the staple products of the county. Fruits of all varieties are grown, and melons and early vegetables are quite profitable. Trucking, especially in the lower end of the county, is one of its chief occupations, and is found very profitable, owing to easy and quick marketing facilities.

In this portion of the county the fish and oyster industry is a very important and profitable one. All the choice varieties of fish, such as shad, herring, rock, trout, etc., are supplied by the Mattaponi and Pamunkey rivers, which bound two sides of the county. Water fowls are also abundant; and poultry does well and is profitable, especially for the early market. Stock raising is very successfully engaged in on the large farms,

especially those on the Mattaponi and Pamunkey rivers, which are well adapted to this industry.

This county has good shipping facilities and market advantages, by rail or water, with the York river branch of the Southern railway, and with steamers and sail vessels traversing both rivers. Regular lines ply between West Point and Baltimore and Norfolk, by way of York river.

Population, census of 1910, 8,547.

King William, the county seat, is twenty-seven miles northeast from Richmond, and two miles from the Mattaponi river.

LANCASTER

This county was formed in 1651 from Northumberland, and is located in the northeastern part of the State, on the north bank of the Rappahannock river, and on the Chesapeake bay, fifty miles from Norfolk, and sixty miles air line, from Richmond.

It contains an area of 137 square miles—80,486 acres, 885 farms. Average size farms, sixty acres.

Surface is mostly level, but in some parts rolling; soil a sandy loam, with clay subsoil, and is easily improved with clover and peas and the judicious use of fertilizers. Farm products are wheat, corn, oats, peas, potatoes, varied trucks and grasses, of which trucking is the most important and profitable, owing to cheap transportation rates; but some of the lands produce fine crops of corn and wheat. Fruits of all kinds are abundant, and early fruits and berries are especially profitable, owing to proximity to Baltimore, Washington and other markets. The most important source of profit and support to the people is the fish and oyster interest, and this industry is attracting to the county considerable numbers of settlers from other counties of the State, and from other States. As one of the counties of that isolated peninsula known as the Northern Neck of Virginia, there are no railroads; but water transportation facilities are excellent and cheap, with steamers plying daily between Baltimore, Norfolk and Fredericksburg, which touch at the various landings in the county. In recent years the introduction of naphtha and gasoline boats has brought this section into closer communication with the rest of the State, and made mail facilities among the best.

Live stock of the county consist of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, all of which are raised to some extent; but poultry raising is perhaps attracting most attention on account of easy access to market and the great demand for eggs in the northern markets. Wild water fowls are also shipped in great quantities from this section.

Timbers are oak, hickory, chestnut, dogwood, poplar, pine and holly, of which a considerable amount is shipped; also a large quantity of cordwood.

Population, census of 1910, 9,752.

Lancaster, the county seat, is located in the northern part of the county.

LEE

This county was formed in 1792 from Russell and named in honor of Henry Lee, then Governor of Virginia. It lies on the southeastern slope of the Cumberland mountains, in the extreme southwest corner of the State, 450 miles from Richmond, having Kentucky on the north and west, Tennessee on the south, Scott and Wise counties on the east, and is marked at its extreme western limit by the widely known Cumberland Gap.

The county is sixty miles in length, by seventeen in breadth, and contains an area of 433 square miles.

The surface is hilly, and some parts mountainous, especially the western part, but the mountains are generally rich to the top. The soil is limestone and sandstone, and while a large proportion of the county is very fertile and productive, the two principal valleys in the eastern part are especially noted in this respect. About one-half of the area of the county is in cultivation, and produces abundant crops of corn, wheat, oats, rye,

potatoes, hay, etc. Some attention is also paid to the cultivation of tobacco of fine grades. Average yield of corn, twenty-five bushels per acre; best crops are from fifty to seventy-five bushels per acre. Wheat yields six to thirty bushels per acre.

This is a fine grass county for both the cultivated grasses and the indigenous blue grass, especially in the eastern portion. The broad and beautiful valleys in this section which have been for many years cultivated in corn have been principally converted into grazing lands, and the county is now rapidly coming to the front in the production of horses, sheep and cattle, having an annual surplus of 6,000 sheep and 5,000 cattle, the great proportion being stock cattle. This county has also ranked among the first in the State in the production of hogs. Considerable attention is being paid to the cultivation of fruit, having at least 2,500 acres in orchards of the various varieties. Fruit growing and stock raising rank as the most profitable industries of the county.

The Louisville and Nashville railroad extends through the entire length of the county, affording excellent railroad facilities. The Virginia and Southwestern also extends through a small portion of the county.

Lee is well watered by Powell's river and its tributaries. In the southeastern and eastern corners, Black Water and Wild Cat creeks flow through small sections of the county. These streams offer a large number of fine water powers, affording from 60 to 250 cubic feet of water per second. Powell's river towards its lower end, in the county, is navigable through the winter months by bateaux, and furnishes transportation for large quantities of grain and forest products, 50,000 bushels of wheat being shipped in this way during the winter season. This method of transportation, however, has been largely superseded by railroads.

This county is rich in minerals, such as iron, coal, lead, zinc, limestone, barytes, kaolin, but the most important are the iron and coal, which with proper development will be a source of vast wealth to the county. To an almost unlimited extent of fossil red iron ores are added extensive deposits of brown ores and of coals. It contains some of the finest known veins of bituminous, splint and cannel coal. There are also mineral waters—chalybeate, white, red and black sulphur—but not important to any great extent.

Population, census of 1910, 23,840.

Jonesville, the county seat, is a thriving village of six hundred inhabitants.

LOUDOUN

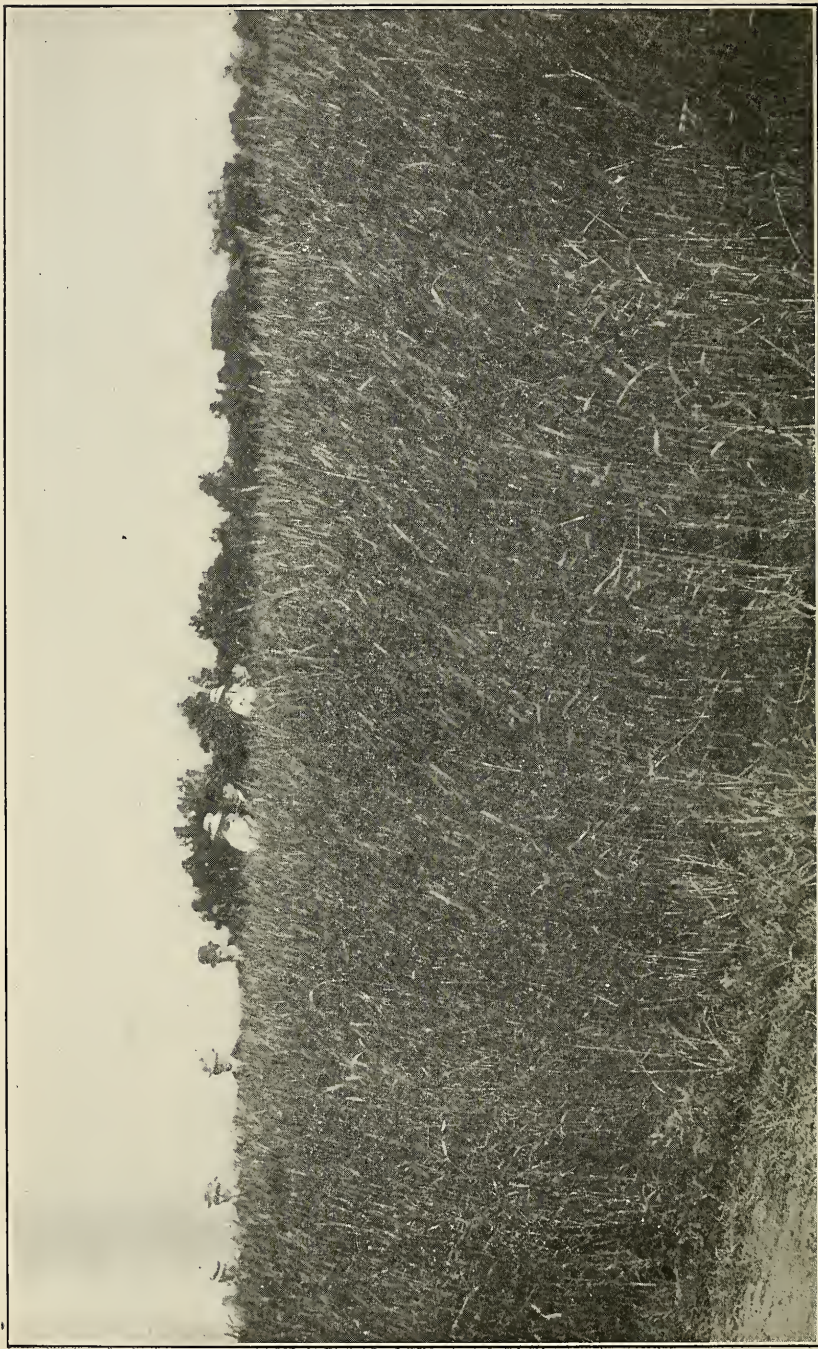
This county was formed in 1757 from Fairfax. It is the northernmost of the Piedmont counties, 100 miles north of Richmond, and lies on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge mountains. It contains an area of 519 square miles. Average size farms 100 acres. The surface is varied, with mountains, gently sloping hills and broad valleys. About sixty per cent. of the land is under cultivation, of which the greater part is exceedingly fertile; soil, clay and loam, with some sand.

Farm products are wheat, corn, rye, oats, hay, etc. Average yield of wheat is about twenty bushels, and corn, thirty-five bushels per acre; though fifty and sixty bushels of the latter are not an unusual yield. This county takes first rank in the production of corn, and third in amount of wheat and grass raised in the State. Blue grass also is indigenous here, rivaling the best blue grass lands of Kentucky.

Much attention is paid to improved breeds of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, and large numbers of sheep and cattle are grazed annually. This county stands first in its wool clip, and third in the number of horses raised, of which there are many blooded, with fine records. Loudoun ranks high in the number of her milch cows, and the amount of butter made, and large quantities of milk and cream are shipped daily to Washington.

Population, census of 1910, 21,167.

Leesburg, the county seat, is a thriving town of 2,000 inhabitants.



Virginia is a producer of the highest quality of winter wheat. Yields of 40 bushels per acre in 100-acre crops are made.

LOUISA

This county was formed in 1742 from Hanover. It is situated in middle Virginia, in what is known as the Piedmont section, forty miles northwest from Richmond. It is thirty miles long and about eighteen miles wide, and contains an area of 529 square miles.

The surface is gently undulating, and about one-half of the land is under cultivation. The soil is generally a granite or gray soil, with clay subsoil, and of good quality. In the western part of the county the lands are very fertile, and embrace the noted Green Springs district, supposed to be the bed of an ancient lake. Along the borders of the streams are many wide and fertile flats, while on the uplands may be found almost every variety and quality of soil.

Farm products are wheat, corn, oats, tobacco, potatoes, hay, etc., all of which are very successfully produced; especially tobacco, which is the staple crop of the county. Violet-growing is proving to be a profitable horticultural interest; in recent years the soil has been found to be especially adapted to this industry, and especially is this true of the Green Springs section. Fruits of every variety are successfully grown, especially small fruits, grapes, berries and melons.

The convenience of the Richmond market renders dairying and poultry raising sources of considerable profit to the people. Stock raising and grazing are specialties with some of the farmers, and the western, or Green Springs section, is also specially adapted to this industry.

Railroad facilities are ample, and are furnished by the Chesapeake and Ohio, which extends almost through the entire length of the county, and the Southern, skirting the western end. These bring the county into convenient communication with Richmond city, its principal market, and with the country north and west.

This county is rich in minerals, such as gold, copper, iron, mica, soapstone, ochre and pyrites. Gold has been mined with varying success, and often profitably. A mica vein has also been worked, and extensive beds of iron ore lie contiguous to the Chesapeake and Ohio railway.

Timber consists of oak, pine, poplar, hickory, walnut, maple, ash; and second growth pine abounds to a considerable extent.

The county is well watered by the North and South Anna rivers, and their tributaries, which also furnish abundant water power. Good flour and corn mills are located in every neighborhood. Public spirit and enterprise is shown in the erection of three splendid iron bridges over the rivers.

Population, census of 1910, 16,578.

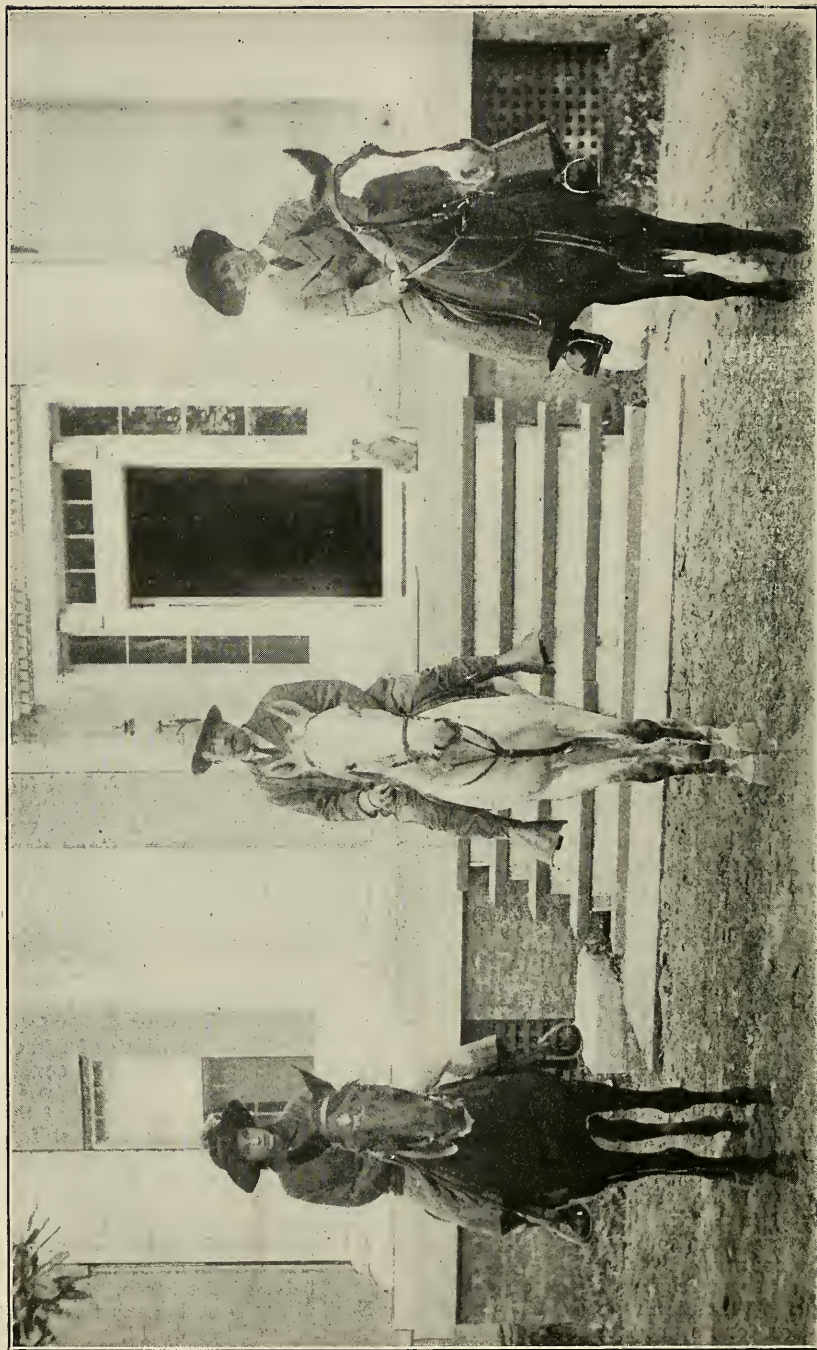
Louisa, the county seat.

LUNENBURG

This county was formed in 1746 and is a southern county, lying near the North Carolina border, fifty-one miles southwest of Richmond, and 125 miles west of Norfolk. It is thirty miles long, with an average width of fifteen miles, and contains an area of four hundred and seven-

ty-one square miles.

Lunenburg county, one of the richest and most fertile counties of the State, is probably the least known. Its rich and virgin soil, its vast forests of timber have long lain dormant, awaiting the shrill whistle of the locomotive and the quickening touch of progress to awaken them to life, and to bring wealth, not only to the capitalist, but also to the farmer and small investor. The recent opening up of the Virginian railway, which traverses the county from end to end, has supplied this long-felt want, and the county bids fair to be, as it deserves to be, on account of its natural wealth and resources, one of the foremost counties of the State. Situated on the Virginian railway, 125 miles from Norfolk, easy and cheap transportation for its products are afforded to the markets of the world.



Mr. Dimock and his family, who came from New York to Virginia a few years ago and located in Tidewater Virginia.

The surface of the county is rolling, with a mean elevation of from 50 to 150 feet above the sea level, rising at points to 580 feet. The soil is a grayish slate, easily tilled; the farm products are wheat, corn, oats, grass, cotton and tobacco. All these are raised in great abundance and are profitable, but tobacco, both heavy, shipping and light leaf, is the principal crop. Cattle raising could be made a profitable industry, and sheep do well in this county; there is ample water power here, and there are four or five large water mills in the county.

Population 12,780, census 1910.

MADISON

This county was formed in 1792 from Culpeper, and lies on the east side of the Blue Ridge mountains, in the northern part of the State, sixty-five miles northwest of Richmond. On the northwest is Page, from which it is separated by the Blue Ridge mountains; on the north, Rappahannock; Culpeper on the east; Orange on the southeast; Greene on the southwest, the Rapidan river forming the dividing line.

It contains an area of 336 square miles; 1,200 farms; average size of farms, 140 acres. About one-third of the area is in cultivation.

The surface is rolling; the soil varies from loam, sand and slate, to red clay, and is very productive, especially on the rivers, which embrace extensive and fertile bottoms. This is an excellent grass and grain producing county, and the slopes of the mountains are especially adapted to tobacco, potatoes, etc.

Owing to its exemption from late frosts, this section is especially adapted to fruit culture, and the pippin and other valuable apples do well, with proper attention. Grape culture is also a profitable industry, especially in the section bordering on Orange, the character and quality of the soil here being peculiarly favorable to this fruit. Vegetables do well, and the dairy product is considerable.

The Blue Ridge mountains, which extend along the entire northwest border, are 3,860 feet above sea level at the highest point. The top and slopes furnish excellent grazing when cleared, and cattle there thrive well, owing to lower temperature and freedom from insect annoyance.

It has macadamized and other roads.

There are numerous churches of different denominations, distributed well over the county. Educational facilities are excellent.

Population, census of 1910, 10,055.

Madison, the county seat and principal town.

MATHEWS

This county was formed in 1790 from Gloucester, and is one of the extreme eastern counties of the State, lying on the Chesapeake bay, which bounds it on the east, with Mobjack bay and North river on the south and west, a small portion of Gloucester on the west, and Piankitank river on the north, separating it from Middlesex, thus forming a peninsula, united to the mainland by a very narrow neck of county. It is twenty miles long and nine miles across at the widest point, and contains an area of ninety-two square miles.

Average size of farms is forty acres. Taking all the advantages of locality, soil and climate into consideration, land is cheap and desirable. The water courses are very valuable.

The surface is level, soil a sandy loam, easily cultivated and responding readily to fertilizers. Farm products are corn, wheat, rye and oats. Fruits do well, but is particularly adapted to the raising of truck and vegetables.

It ranks as among the first counties of the State in the yield of its fisheries, and is also renowned for their superior excellence. Several canning factories are being operated successfully.

The nearest railroad station is West Point, in King William county, distant about thirty miles, but this deficiency is amply supplied by daily steamers from Norfolk and other seaboard cities.

Shell marl is found in many localities, and utilized to some extent; also a species of peat, well adapted to composting, is found in the ravines. Principal timbers are pine and oak.

In addition to the surrounding waters mentioned, the East river, extending through the central part of the county, divides it into two nearly equal parts, called East and West Mathews.

Population, census of 1910, 8,972.

MECKLENBURG

This county was formed in 1764 from Lunenburg, and is on the southern border of the State, ninety miles southwest from Richmond. It has an average length of thirty-six miles and a width of twenty miles, and contains an area of 640 square miles; about one-third of the lands in cultivation.

Surface is generally undulating; average elevation above sea level about five hundred feet; the soil variable, light sandy to stiff clay, easily cultivated, and readily responding to good treatment; along the valleys of the streams it is alluvial and exceedingly fertile.

Farm products are tobacco, peanuts, wheat, corn, oats, cotton and hay. This county ranks third in the State in the yield of tobacco, which is three and a half million pounds annually, and of fine grade. The various grasses, clover, alfalfa, orchard grass, timothy, etc., grow luxuriantly on good soils. Fruits are apples, peaches, pears, apricots, cherries, grapes, melons and berries of all kinds, which are produced in abundance, large areas being appropriated to orchards and to grape culture. Irish and sweet potatoes and all the garden vegetables can be abundantly grown; also poultry does well in this section, and wild game is abundant. Tobacco being the leading crop of the county, the farmers have been so absorbed in its culture as to neglect other farm industries; but an interest has recently been awakened in stock raising, and, owing to the mild climate and consequent small cost of raising stock, this industry is destined to assume large and increasing proportions.

In some portions of the county gold, copper, granite, soapstone and kaolin exist, but are undeveloped. Mineral waters are abundant and noted, especially the celebrated Buffalo Lithia Springs, on the southern border of the county, whose waters are famous the world over for their potential health-producing and medicinal properties. At Chase City, Clarksville and Jeffress, near South Hill, there are also mineral waters noted for their medicinal ingredients and adaption to a wide range of diseases.

Population of county, census of 1910, 28,956.

Boydton, the county seat.

MIDDLESEX

This county was formed from Lancaster in 1675. It is situated in the eastern part of the State, forty miles east of Richmond, and lies between the Rappahannock and the Piankitank rivers, with Chesapeake bay on the east.

It is thirty miles long with an average width of six miles; and contains an area of 156 square miles. The surface is generally level, with an elevation above tidewater of ten to thirty feet on the river, and a hundred feet or more further back. The soil is light and dark loam, with clay subsoil, easily cultivated and readily improved.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, hay, etc., and the lands are especially adapted in some parts to the growth of clover. Peaches, apples, pears, plums, apricots, and the smaller fruits and berries do well; also vegetables of the various kinds, giving employment to several fruit and vegetable canneries. Being convenient to market, this county is very favorably located for trucking, which is carried on to a considerable extent, especially in the lower part of the county.

Poultry is a profitable and increasing industry, with several large poultry establishments in the county. Stock is grown to some extent, the most profitable branch of which is spring lambs. The most extensive and



One of Virginia's charming Colonial homes.

profitable industry, however, is in fish and oysters, for which this county is scarcely second to any in the State. It has several fish and oyster canneries and fish fertilizer factories.

Large deposits of marl abound, and this has been extensively used with great benefit to the soil in connection with clover and cow peas, in proper rotation of crops.

Timbers are oak, pine, chestnut, ash and cypress, of good quality and quantity. The county is well watered by the surrounding water courses and their tributary streams, which also afford water power for numerous grist mills. There are also many steam mills in operation. Water communication and transportation is direct by daily steamers to Baltimore, Fredericksburg and Norfolk. Population, census of 1910, 8,852.

Saluda, the county seat, is located near the center of the county.

This county was formed in 1776 from a portion of the territory then known as the Fin-castle district. The balance of the district was merged into Washington and Kentucky counties, the latter comprising the present State of

MONTGOMERY

Kentucky. Montgomery has since been shorn of much of its original territory by the formation of several new counties on every side.

It is 175 miles southwest from Richmond, about midway between that city and the extreme southwest, and is about twenty-two miles on each of its irregular sides, containing an area of 394 square miles.

The surface is rolling and mountainous generally. The soil varies according to the geological structure, being principally clay and limestone, and some portions slate and freestone; the latter a lighter soil, and generally thin and sterile on the hills. The greater portion of the county is very rich and productive, yielding fine crops of corn, wheat, oats, rye. It is especially adapted to the grasses, both the cultivated and the natural blue grass; so that the production of hay, grazing and stock raising are extensively carried on and are very profitable. Some of the finest herds of shorthorn cattle in the State are found in this county, and it is also specially adapted to the raising of sheep. Fruits of all kinds are readily and abundantly grown, and the vegetable and dairy products are also items of considerable revenue to the farmer.

Population, census of 1910, 17,268.

Christiansburg, the county seat, is situated near the center of the county, one mile south of Christiansburg station, Norfolk and Western railroad, and on the summit of the Alleghany mountains, 2,200 feet above tidewater. It is a beautiful and growing town of 659 inhabitants (last census), and is surrounded by a fertile and picturesque country.

Blacksburg is specially noted as the seat of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, a military institution that is doing admirable work in educating the young men of the State in agriculture, the mechanical arts and engineering. The buildings are principally brick, large and commodious, and the college grounds extensive and very attractive. The college farm, consisting of 338 acres of excellent land in fine state of cultivation, is devoted to experimental purposes. The shops are well equipped with valuable machinery for iron and wood work; also with foundry and forge. The income of the college consists of an annuity from the Federal government and a liberal appropriation by the State. It is one of the largest and most progressive schools in the State, being taxed to its full capacity in the number of pupils. The military feature is decidedly attractive and useful.

This county was formed in 1639 from Isle of Wight, and is located in the southeastern portion of the State sixty-six miles from Richmond. It is thirty-five miles long and nineteen miles wide, extending from Hampton Roads, on

NANSEMOND

the north, to the North Carolina line on the south, and contains an area of 393 square miles.

About one-third of the area is in cultivation. Sixty-five thousand acres of the Dismal Swamp is embraced in this county. The soil is sandy loam, with clay subsoil. The lands on the river are of very fine quality.

Farm products are corn, oats, wheat, cotton and peanuts. In the production of the last, this county ranks among the first in the State. Vegetables of all kinds grow to great perfection, and come into market early; especially melons, peas and tomatoes. The Nansemond potato has long been celebrated for its superior quality. A large proportion of the land is devoted to trucking. This and peanut raising are the most profitable industries of the county. Fish and oysters are abundant; also water fowls, such as ducks, geese and swans.

A great abundance of marl of superior quality is found, and much used on the lands. There is still some good timber in the county, such as pine, cypress and juniper, which find a ready and profitable market. Nansemond river, in the middle and northern portion, and Blackwater and its tributaries, in the southern and western parts, afford ample water supply and drainage.

In climate, health and water, this county compares favorably with other portions of this section of the State. Churches are numerous and largely attended; telephone service and mail facilities are all that could be desired; the rate of taxation is low; and altogether, this is one of the most prosperous counties in the State.

Population, census of 1910, 26,886.

Suffolk is the county seat.

NELSON

This county was formed in 1897 from Amherst, and lies on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge, seventy-five miles west of Richmond. It is separated from Augusta on the northwest by the Blue Ridge mountains, and from Buckingham on the southeast by

James river. It contains an area of 472 square miles.

The surface is rolling, the soil generally is red clay, except on the rivers, which is dark alluvial, and very productive. Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, tobacco, buckwheat and the grasses, especially clover and timothy.

This county is especially adapted to the growth of fruits and vegetables of all kinds; indeed, it may be considered one of the best sections in the State for fruit. The Albemarle pippin, and the Pilot, another famous apple, and a native of this county, flourish here. Grapes also grow to perfection in this county, and have received increased attention the past few years, with gratifying results. There are several large vineyards in the county. Poultry is extensively and profitably raised. Of the various products of the county, however, tobacco is the chief money crop of the farmer.

The mountain lands furnish fine pasturage; and horses, cattle and sheep especially, are raised here in large numbers for northern markets.

Minerals are iron ore, both hematite and magnetic; copper, manganese, lead, asbestos, kaolin and soapstone; of which iron, copper and manganese have been worked to a considerable extent. Four companies are working up soapstone into wash-tubs, etc., and they cannot supply the demand from New York and Philadelphia alone. Chalybeate and sulphur waters are found in various parts.

Lovingsston, the county seat.

Population of county, census of 1910, 16,821.

NEW KENT

This county was formed from York in 1654. It lies nine miles east of Richmond, between the Pamunkey and the Chickahominy rivers. It is twenty-six miles long and from seven to nine miles wide, and contains an area of 233 square miles. The surface is generally level, but is undulating in parts. The soil in

the interior is light and sandy; on the river bottom a stiff clay or loam; the latter are very extensive and exceedingly fertile. Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, early vegetables, sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes, for the last of which the soil is specially adapted; also red clover, vetch, rape, and other valuable grasses grow here to perfection.

Poultry and trucking are important products; perhaps the most important in the county. Horses, cattle and sheep do well; especially the last. These can get green food the year round, except a few days when there is snow, which is soon gone.

Marl is abundant, and of excellent quality. The timber consists of oak, hickory, maple, pine, cypress, ash, gum, etc. Much cord-wood and ship timber is annually marketed from this county.

Population, census of 1910, 4,682.

This county is noted as having been the marriage place of George Washington.

New Kent Courthouse, the county seat.

NORFOLK

This county, from the earliest days, has figured conspicuously in history. Its present condition is the interesting theme of this accurate presentation. It is one of the richest in agricultural production, in general and varied resources. It is one of the most progressive, and the most populous of the counties. It is the local figure in the State's activities.

In spite of constant diminution in area through annexation of territory to the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth, it has suffered but little loss in assessments.

In 1910 the population of Norfolk county was 52,744. No section of the entire country presents a fairer prospect of profit through intensive farming.

The influence of the Gulf stream so tempers the rigors of winter and prolongs the season of production, that as many as four crops are raised annually from the same ground. The soil is a semi-sandy loam, rendering cultivation easy, and insuring prompt benefits from fertilizer application, thus forcing growth and early shipments to the great populous trade centers.

Trucking is a commercial business, requiring the highest order of intelligence and industry, and experience during a series of years has amply proven its profitable character. Rapid transportation is the great factor in its enlargement, since Long Island cannot supply fresher green-stuff to the New York market than can the Old Dominion steamers and our railroads, which land their freight fifteen hours after leaving our fields.

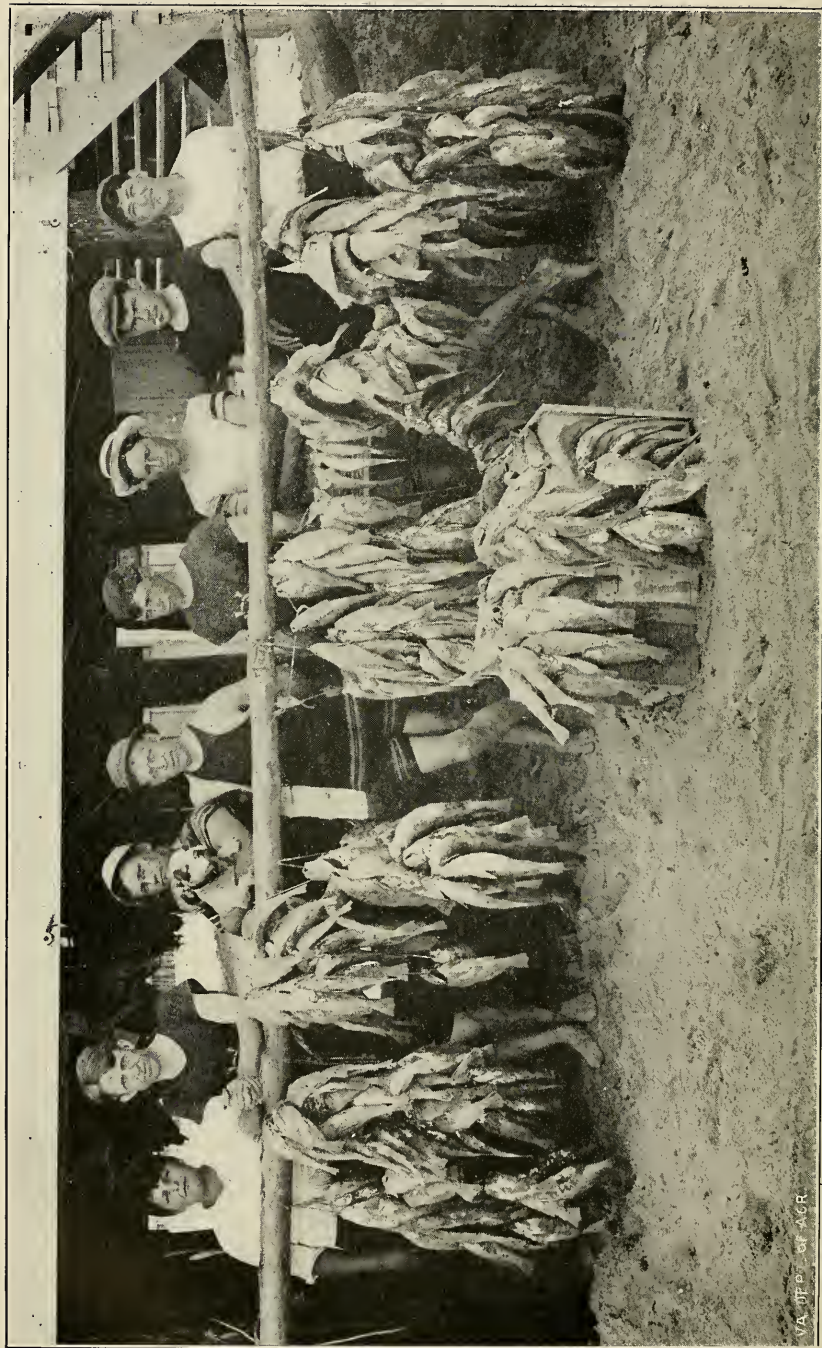
Immense local plants supply the millions of packages and the thousands of tons of fertilizers; laborers in large numbers earn big wages; general business is sustained; bank deposits are swelled to great proportions, the whole bringing prosperity to more people than does any one other industry in the State. All of this will be multiplied many times when intensive farming is more widely practiced.

The experience of one man in Norfolk county is strikingly illustrative of what is possible along this line of agriculture. On two and one-half acres he raised a few of the more choice and delicate vegetables in cold frames, and sold them in the local market in advance of regular production; he netted \$6,050.

Norfolk city, one of Virginia's principal cities, is situated in this county.

NORTHAMPTON

This county was originally a portion of Accomac, and occupies the southern portion of the Eastern Shore peninsula. It is located in the extreme eastern part of the State, seventy-eight miles from Richmond, with the Atlantic ocean on the east, the Chesapeake bay on the west, and Accomac county on the



VA. OFF. OF AGR.

A fish fry in Virginia is a day to be enjoyed and long remembered. The boys in this group have had fine sport in "making ready."

north. Thirty miles long, with an average width of five miles, it contains an area of 232 square miles.

The surface is level, the soil light sandy, with clay subsoil, very easily improved. Farm products are sweet and Irish potatoes, corn, rye and grasses, especially clover. Fruits do well, especially apples, and the smaller fruits, berries, etc. It is especially adapted to the growth of vegetables of all kinds, ranking first in the State for the yield of onions per acre. Trucking is carried on to a large extent; the lands are especially adapted to this industry, and are scarcely excelled in this particular in the State. The most important and profitable products of the county, however, are Irish and sweet potatoes. Last year the growers were favored with an abundant crop of both, and at remunerative prices; and it will long be remembered as the best and most prosperous year within the recollection of the people.

The numerous rivers, bays and inlets with which its shores are indented, contain fish and oysters in great quantities, variety, and of superior excellence, forming a source of cheap and luxurious living, and large revenues to the inhabitants. Water fowls are also abundant, and a source of much profit and sport to the huntsman.

The New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk railroad passes through the center of the county for twenty miles, terminating at Cape Charles City, on the Chesapeake bay, from which point a steam tug and barge line connects with Norfolk, thus affording excellent transportation facilities to the markets, north and south.

Population, census of 1910, 16,672.

NORTHUMBERLAND

This county was formed in 1648. It is one of the five counties constituting the Northern Neck, and lies at the mouth of the Potomac river, on the Chesapeake bay, sixty miles northeast from Richmond.

It is twenty-five miles long and seven to eight miles wide, and contains an area of 235 square miles. About forty per cent. of the area is in cultivation. Surface is level, soil rich and alluvial on the streams; on the uplands, light and sandy, and easily improved.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, sweet and Irish potatoes. Clover does well, and the raising of clover seed has assumed considerable proportions. Garden vegetables and fruits of all kinds, and of the best, are produced. Fowls and eggs in great abundance are marketed. The trucking interest is largely on the increase.

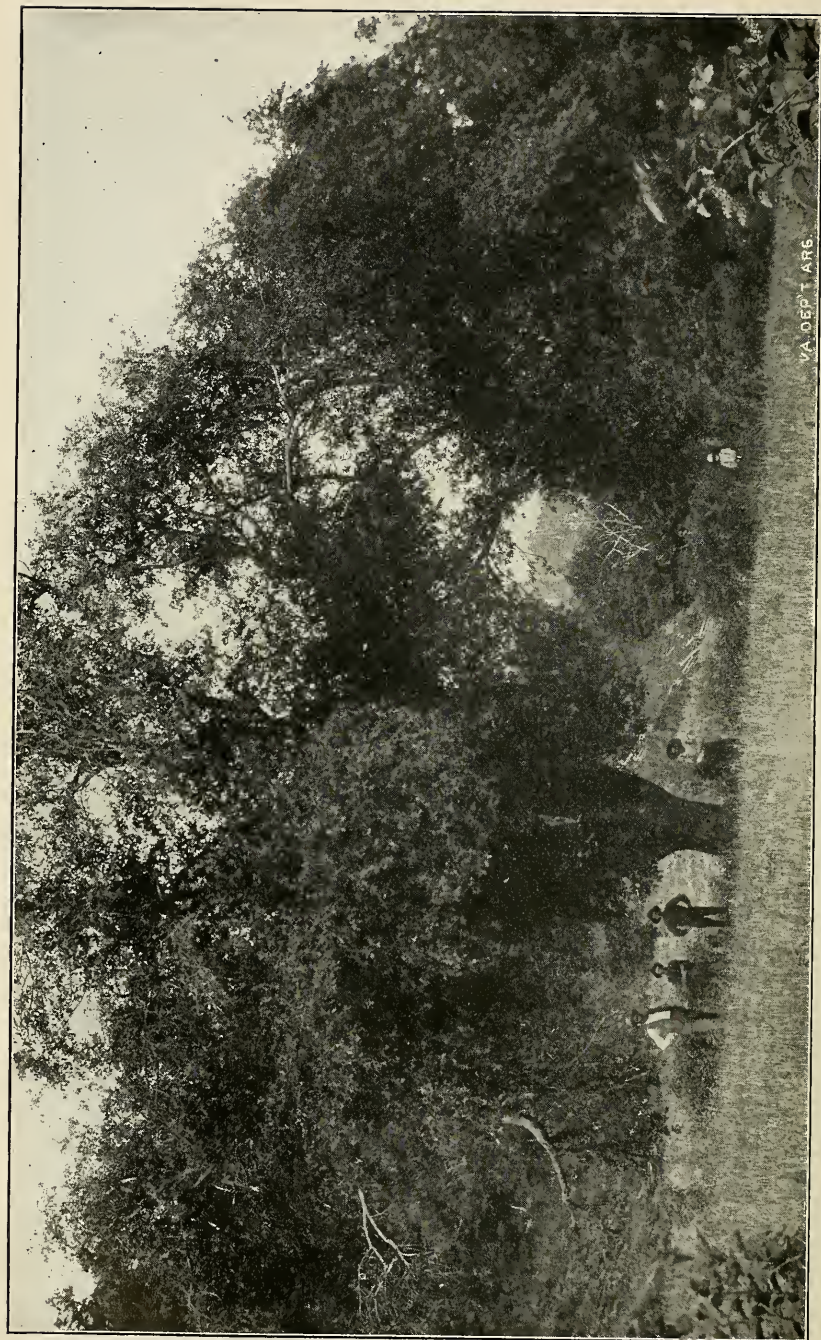
There are some very good breeds of stock kept, and conditions are improving yearly in this respect.

This county is scarcely second to any in the State in the extent and value of its fisheries and oyster beds, and water fowls abound in great abundance. The fishing season lasts about half the year, employing a large number of men and vessels. There are many large and important fish factories in operation in the county engaged in the manufacture of fish-oil and fish fertilizers (commonly known as fish chum), and this industry ranks as the most profitable in the county. Other enterprises are oyster packing plants, canneries, sawmills, planing mills, etc. Unparalleled commercial facilities exist on account of its numerous navigable waters with coast-line and inland lines of steamers connecting with Baltimore, Washington, Alexandria and Norfolk, affording excellent market advantages for its products—melons, fresh vegetables, oysters, fish, wild fowls and poultry.

The most valuable timbers are oak, pine, poplar and chestnut, considerably depleted, but still yielding quantities of cord-wood, railroad ties, ship-timber, etc. Poplar chiefly is exported.

Population, census of 1910, 10,777.

Heathsville, the county seat.



THE HOME OF THE APPLE TREE.

An apple tree more than 100 years old in Virginia, which bore a few years ago 220 bushels of apples. This tree is still healthy and bearing large crops of apples.

NOTTOWAY

This county was formed in 1788 from Amelia, and is located in the south-central part of the State, thirty miles southwest from Richmond. It is twenty-five miles long by about twelve miles in width, and has an area of 304 square miles. Average size of farms,

eighty-five acres.

Lands in this county are low. Many valuable tracts can be bought at a very reasonable price. The surface is rolling and soil a clay loam.

Principal farm products are wheat, corn, oats and tobacco, especially the latter, of which the yield is very large and of excellent quality.

Railroads are the Norfolk and Western and the Southern, which intersect at Burkeville, and furnish convenient transportation facilities for the products of the county. Minerals are kaolin, mica, granite and soapstone, but undeveloped. There are five banks in the county.

The most valuable timbers are pine, oak, hickory, walnut, poplar, chestnut, cedar and ash.

Ample water supply and drainage is furnished by the Nottoway and Little Nottoway rivers, and numerous creeks, tributaries of the Appomattox, on which are situated flour mills and sawmills.

Public schools and churches abound; there are three high schools.

Population, census of 1910, 13,462.

Nottoway, the county seat, is located near the center of the county, on the Norfolk and Western railroad. Population, 175. It has a grist mill, public graded school, private school, fraternal order, and excellent water power. Other towns are Burkeville, Crewe and Blackstone.

This county was formed from Spotsylvania in 1764.

It is situated in the Piedmont section, sixty miles northeast from Richmond. Its greatest length is thirty-eight miles, and width ranges from five to fourteen miles, containing an area of 349 square

miles.

The surface in the eastern part is undulating and hilly; mountainous to some extent in the central and western portions, with about one-third of the area in cultivation, of which the greater portion is of excellent quality. The soil is a dark red clay, producing large crops of grain, grass and some tobacco.

This is a fine grass-growing and grazing county, and as a result, the rearing of cattle and sheep, of good quality, is extensively carried on; and for sheep especially it is perhaps second to none outside of the blue grass region.

This county is peculiarly adapted to the growing of apples, cherries, grapes, and all the standard varieties of fruit. The raising of small fruits, especially, is a rapidly-increasing and profitable industry. Large areas are being appropriated to vineyards, and large quantities of grapes are annually shipped to the northern markets. Fruit growing and stock raising rank as the most profitable industries of the county.

The Southern, Chesapeake and Ohio, and the Fredericksburg railways afford excellent transportation facilities to all parts of the county.

Minerals are iron, gold, asbestos, fire clay, marble and limestone, some of which have been successfully worked.

Population, census of 1910, 13,486.

Orange, the county seat, is located in the west-central part of the county, eighty miles northwest from Richmond, and is the center of the railroad system of the county.

This county was formed in 1831 from Shenandoah and Rockingham, and constitutes a part of the rich and beautiful valley of the Shenandoah. It is situated in the northern part of the State, ninety miles northwest from Richmond. The whole county is a

valley thirty miles in length, and about eleven miles in width, with the

PAGE

Blue Ridge for its eastern and the Massanutten mountains as western boundaries. The Shenandoah river extends through its entire length, and the county contains an area of 317 square miles.

The surface is gently undulating, and the soil a rich limestone of great fertility, yielding large crops of wheat, corn, oats, rye, and the grasses. Grazing facilities, especially in the Blue Ridge section, are excellent, and horses, cattle and sheep are extensively grown. Fruits and vegetables do well. Dairy and poultry products are considerable and a source of much profit.

The Shenandoah valley division of the Norfolk and Western railroad passes through the center of the county its entire length, affording to all sections convenient transportation facilities north and south.

Situated within five hours' run of Baltimore and Washington, these cities afford excellent markets, though much of the poultry, dairy and vegetable products find a home market in the hotels, boarding houses, tanneries and other enterprises.

Population of county, census of 1910, 14,147.

Luray, the county seat, is a beautiful town, situated on the Shenandoah valley division of the Norfolk and Western railroad, and in the center of the rich and beautiful Page valley. It has macadamized streets and paved sidewalks, numerous schools, churches and fraternal orders, two newspapers and two banks—in a very prosperous condition. The tannery and bark works located here are large and successful enterprises. The water works and gas plant recently installed have given new life and enterprise to the town. The noted Luray Caverns, which annually attract thousands of visitors, are one mile distant from the town. Luray is becoming a very popular summer resort, with its splendid hotel accommodations. Its wonderful caverns have a national reputation.

PATRICK

This county was formed from Henry in 1781. It is situated in the southwestern portion of Virginia, 158 miles southwest from Richmond, air line, and is the most western county of the State south of the Blue Ridge, which forms its western boundary. It contains an area of 489 square miles. The surface is hilly and mountainous in the western part, with fine bottom lands along the numerous streams. The soil varies from sandy to a red loam, and is productive.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, tobacco and the grasses. In the southern half of the county, along the North Carolina line and the portion adjoining Henry county, is the fine tobacco belt. About half of the county is really in the famous Blue Ridge section, well adapted to grain, grass and cattle, especially the northern portion on the "Meadows of Dan"—a beautiful plateau on and near the top of the Blue Ridge. Stock raising is a considerable industry, and with proper attention could be made very profitable.

This is an exceptionally fine county for fruit. The soil and climate are peculiarly adapted to its growth, and the people, realizing these advantages, are turning their attention largely to its culture. To those who are interested in this industry, Patrick offers inducements second to none in the State. Lands are cheap, and apples grown here have taken first honors for size, color and flavor wherever exhibited. There are thousands of acres of first-class lands in the county, notably on the face and the foothills of the Blue Ridge, and in the rich coves, that are unexcelled for apples and fruit of all kinds.

Stuart, the county seat.

Population of county, census of 1910, 17,195.

PITTSYLVANIA

This county was formed in 1767 from Halifax, and is the central southern county of the State, 110 miles southwest from Richmond, and bordering the North Carolina line. It is thirty-five miles long and about twenty-five miles wide, and is the second largest county in area in the State, containing 986 square miles.

Numerous farms in the county have been sold to northern buyers at good prices. The surface is generally rolling and hilly, with some low mountains, but a very large area of fertile bottom lands along the streams. The soil is varied in character and adaptable for the cultivation of almost every known crop of the latitude. The soil of the uplands is light, gray and gravelly, producing an immense quantity of the finest bright yellow tobacco, nearly doubling in quantity any other county in the State, and totaling over 17,000,000 pounds by last census, and constituting the money crop of the county. The soil of the lowlands along the streams varies from a stiff red to a sandy character, and is very fertile, producing fine crops of corn, wheat, oats, rye and grass. Fruits and vegetables of all kinds common to other sections of the State are grown to great perfection, and, together with the dairy products, peanuts, etc., are sources of considerable revenue to the farmer.

Market advantages are excellent, supplied by its convenient railroad facilities and the large demand at Danville, its manufacturing city.

For stock raising, it is principally noted for its large number of mules and very recently lands have been purchased in the county by parties from without for the purpose of stocking them with high-bred horses. Stock raising presents an inviting field of operation in this county, all the conditions being favorable to it.

This county has excellent railroad facilities, having connection with Richmond, Lynchburg, Martinsville, Greensboro and Norfolk, through its various lines—the Atlantic and Danville, Danville and Western, and the Southern and its branches.

Telephone service and mail facilities are first-class. Much attention is given to road improvements and bridges, and as a result, the county has most excellent roads. Progress and improvement is apparent in all lines of agriculture and business. The financial condition of the county is good.

The population of the county (independent of Danville), census of 1910, is 50,709, making it second in the State in population.

Chatham, the county seat, situated on the Southern railway, is a thriving town of considerable importance.

This county was formed in 1777 from Cumberland. It is located in the central portion of the State, twenty miles west of Richmond, the James river forming its northern and Appomattox river its southern boundary.

POWHATAN

It is twenty-five miles long and about fifteen miles wide, and contains an area of 284 square miles, one-third of which is under cultivation.

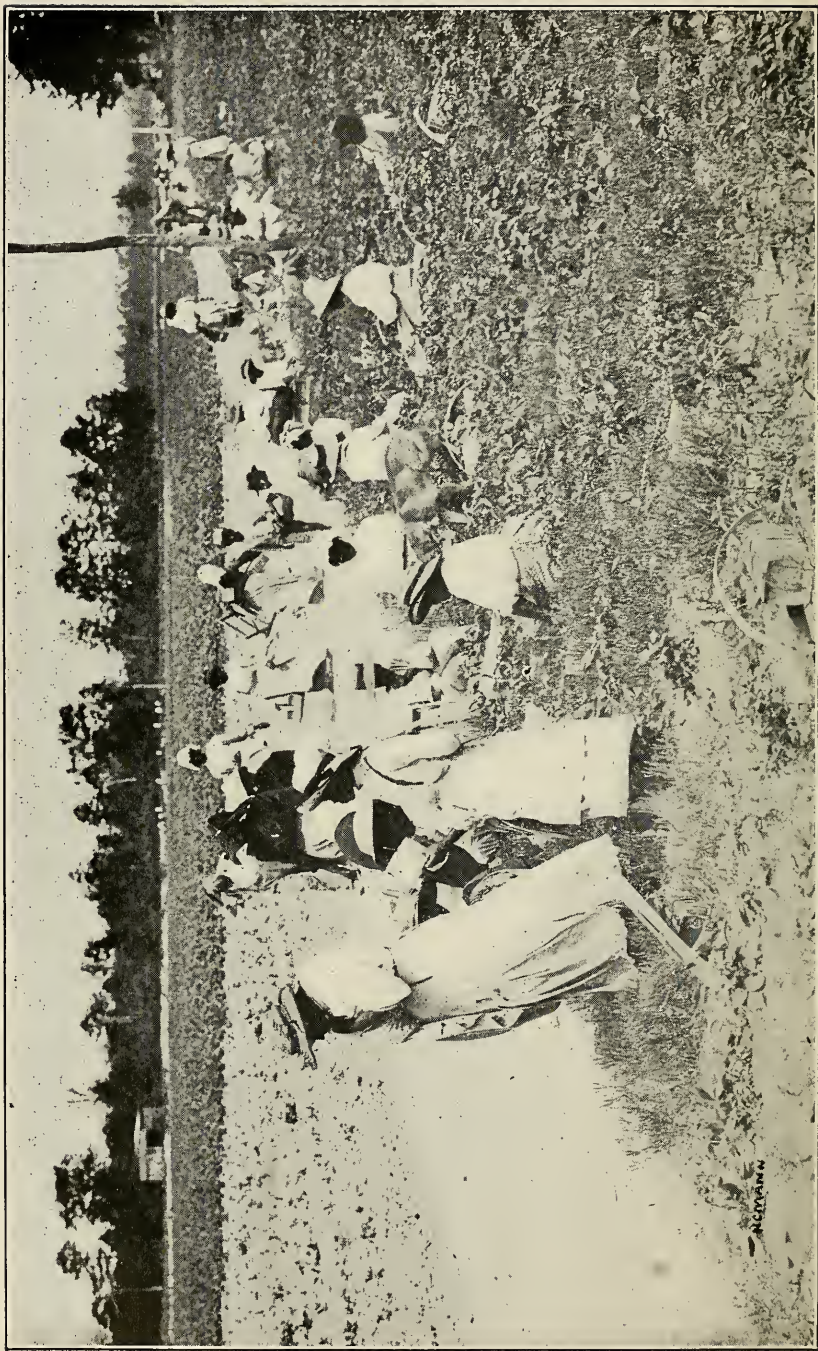
The surface back from the streams is gently undulating. The soil of the county varies from a light gray to a stiff red clay, and is fairly fertile, especially on the rivers.

Farm products are corn, wheat, tobacco, oats and hay, tobacco being the principal money crop. All the grasses do well here, but those principally grown are clover, timothy, herds grass, millet and orchard grass.

This is one of the finest apple counties in Middle Virginia, and peaches, pears, plums, grapes, berries, melons and other fruits do well and are but little subject from damage from insects.

Population, census of 1910, 6,099,

Powhatan, the county seat.



A lively scene in the great trucking fields of Virginia.

PRINCE EDWARD

This county was formed in 1753 from Amelia, and is situated in the south-central part of the State, sixty miles southwest from Richmond. It is twenty-five miles long and about twelve miles wide, and contains an area of 345 square miles (one-third of which is in cultivation). The surface is rolling; soil, varied; gray loam, red and chocolate loams, or sandy; generally productive and well adapted to the various farm products. Tobacco yields from 300 to 1,000 pounds per acre; wheat, eight to thirty bushels; corn, ten to fifty bushels; oats, ten to fifty bushels; potatoes, fifty to 300 bushels; and all forage crops, especially the legumes, are produced. The grasses—clover, timothy, red top, or herd's grass—are also profitably grown. This is not a natural grazing section save for sheep, and in that particular it ranks well. All the fruits and vegetables common to Virginia do well here.

Churches of all Protestant denominations are ample for the population. Educational advantages are very superior—with Hampden-Sidney College, the State Female Normal, and a fine system of public free schools. Mail facilities ample. Telephone service now well organized and very useful.

Population, census of 1910, 14,266.

Farmville, the principal town and county seat. It is a thriving town of 4,000 inhabitants, and a place of considerable importance as a tobacco manufacturing center, being the fifth largest in the State, and an educational center.

The State Female Normal School is located here, and Hampden-Sidney College, six miles distant, reached by a good macadamized road, both thrifty and popular.

The Farmville Lithia Springs are noted for the curative properties of their waters, which are shipped to all parts of this and foreign countries.

This county was formed in 1702 from Charles City, and is located in the eastern portion of the State, seventeen miles southeast from Richmond, on the south bank of the James river, which separates it from its mother county. It

PRINCE GEORGE

is triangular in shape, and contains an area of 302 square miles.

The surface is generally level. Soil, sandy loam and clay subsoil, generally thin, though there are extensive tracts of valuable alluvial lands on the rivers.

Farm products are corn, cotton, peanuts, tobacco, wheat, oats and the grasses, the light warm lands of the southern portion being best adapted to the peanut and cotton industries. The lands are well adapted to pears, peaches, plums, quinces and grapes, and berries, both wild and cultivated, are abundant. The section adjacent to the river landings and Petersburg are cultivated largely in trucking. Fish are abundant in the inland ponds and James and Appomattox rivers; and the marshes furnish water fowl of the choicest varieties.

Grazing facilities and the production of improved grasses is considerable, and live stock of all kinds do well. Transportation facilities, supplied by the navigable rivers (the James and Appomattox), and the Norfolk and Western railway and Atlantic Coast Line, are ample, and convenient to all parts of the county, affording easy access to the local and the northern and southern markets.

Marl of various sorts is abundant, and has been extensively used with good results. Fine white sandstone and valuable clays of several kinds have been developed to some extent. Timbers are pine, poplar, oak, walnut, gum, persimmon and other hard and soft woods, much of which is shipped north.

Population, census of 1910, 7,848.

Prince George Courthouse, the county seat.

PRINCESS ANNE

This county was formed in 1691 from Norfolk county, and lies in the extreme southeast corner of the State, 110 miles southeast of Richmond. It contains an area of 285 square miles, one-half under cultivation.

The surface is level, soil dark loam, marshy and sandy in some sections—with red clay subsoil, easily tilled and generally productive, especially the swamp lands in Holland swamp, Eastern Shore swamp and Blackwater. There are also some fine lands on the borders of the creeks and inlets. Farm products are corn, oats, potatoes and trucks.

The people are very extensively engaged in the latter, and large quantities of vegetables and fruits are annually shipped to the northern markets. For general trucks this is one of the finest sections of the State, especially the Pungo district. This county is noted for its fish—notably the catches in Back bay—and oysters of unequalled quality; and wild fowls of great variety are found in large quantities, the shipments of which produce large revenues to its citizens.

Nature has been exceedingly lavish to this county in the bestowal of natural products, not only in large extent, but of superior quality. This is the home of the renowned Lynnhaven oysters and canvas-back ducks and other water fowls; the latter being in such abundance as to make gunning at certain seasons quite a profitable industry. Stock raising is principally restricted to the raising of cows for dairy and family purposes, although many stock cattle are fed. There are two dairies in the county. Considerable attention is paid also to hogs.

Transportation facilities are ample and convenient to all sections of the county, consisting of Norfolk and Westrn and Southern railways through center, with branch extending south; also the Albermarle canal along the southern border, and numerous navigable bays and rivers, besides an ocean front of over twenty miles. These afford very superior market advantages.

Virginia Beach, a famous and attractive summer resort on the Atlantic shore, is in this county. It is connected with Norfolk by rail, and largely patronized. The timber consists of pine, cypress, oak, gum, cedar, elm, etc., and most abundant in the northeast portion of the county. North river, running south, and the various sounds, bays and creeks afford ample water supply and drainage. Numerous sawmills are in operation in the county. Barrels, boxes and crates are manufactured; also large quantities of cypress shingles.

The climate is temperate, health fairly good, and water fine in most sections. Churches and schools are numerous and conveniently distributed. The county is well supplied with telephone communication, and mail facilities are good.

Population, census of 1910, 11,526.

Princess Anne, the county seat.

PRINCE WILLIAM

This county was formed in 1730 from Stafford and King George. It is located in the northeast portion of the State, seventy miles air line north from Richmond, and within about thirty miles from Washington, D. C., and extends

from the Bull Run mountains on the north to the Potomac river on the south. It contains an area of 353 square miles.

The lands of this section under a proper system of cultivation can be made quite productive, and will undoubtedly increase in value and importance, owing to their close proximity to the National Capital. The surface is rolling, soil freestone and generally good. Some portions of the county contain as fine lands as are to be found anywhere in the State.

The principal farm products are corn, wheat, oats, rye, potatoes, live stock, poultry and fruit. Average yield per acre: corn, forty bushels;

wheat, thirty-two bushels; oats, twenty bushels; rye, twelve bushels; potatoes, 100 bushels; and hay two tons.

In the upper or northern end of the county, there are some fine blue grass lands, splendidly adapted to grazing and stock raising; hence cattle and sheep are raised in large numbers for the northern markets, and horses of all breeds, from draft horses to hunters and racers. Fruit of all kinds succeed well, and their culture is receiving increased attention. Grapes have been found to do well, and quite a large acreage is devoted to the vine in different sections.

Dairy products pay well, there being special facilities afforded by the Southern railway for placing the milk from stations in this section on the Washington market. Poultry raising has increased largely during the past few years, and is a profitable industry; in fact, the production of any food supplies for the Washington market brings good returns.

Population of the county, census of 1910, 12,026.

Manassas, the county seat, is situated at the junction of the main line of the Southern railway with the branch that extends westward through the Shenandoah valley. It is thirty-three miles southwest of Washington and is a trading center for a productive, populous section of the county. There are numerous churches and public and private schools, two banks, newspaper, Eastern College, State Agricultural and Normal School, fraternal orders and a large number of business houses. There are many fine residences both at Manassas and in the surrounding country, which is very picturesque and attractive. Quite a number of people from the North have located in this section within the past few years. Only a few miles distant from Manassas is the Bull Run battlefield, on which were fought two of the fiercest battles of the Civil War. Other towns of the county are Occoquan, Dumfries, Brentsville and Potomac.

This county was formed in 1839 from Montgomery and Wythe, and named in honor of Count Pulaski, a hero of the Revolution. It is situated in the great Southwest valley, 200 miles, air line, southwest from Richmond. It is twenty-three miles long from north

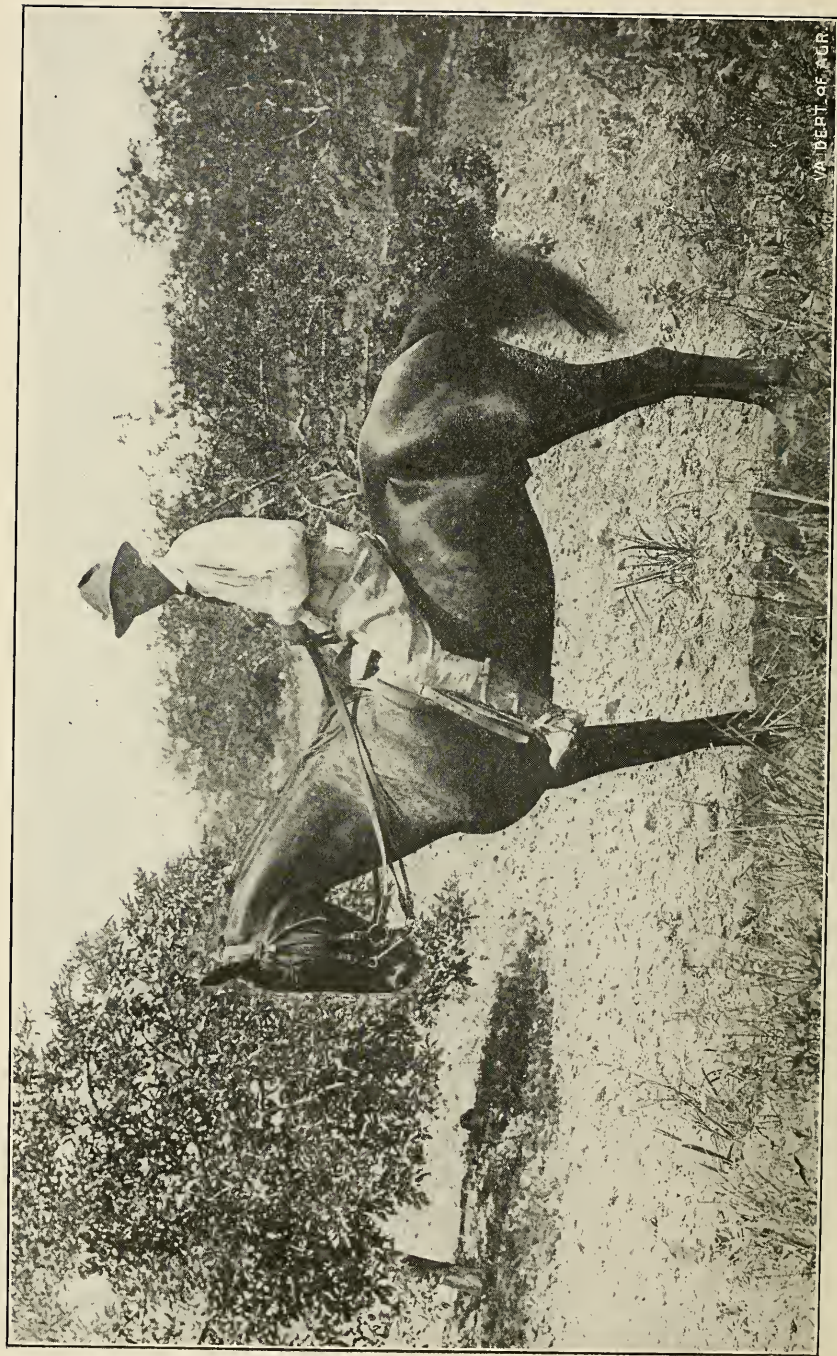
PULASKI

to south; twenty miles wide from east to west, and contains an area of 245 square miles, one-half under cultivation. Surface level and rolling, and in some parts mountainous. The soil is rich and very productive.

Wheat and corn are the staple grain crops, the average yield of which is fifteen to twenty-five bushels of wheat per acre, and from thirty-five to fifty bushels of corn per acre; also oats, rye and millet are grown to a considerable extent. The soil is well adapted to the artificial grasses, and immense quantities of fine hay are annually produced; but the greatest agricultural wealth of this county consists in its splendid grazing facilities, being the natural home of what is termed the Kentucky blue grass. It is unsurpassed in this respect by any county in the State for the territory embraced.

The quality of cattle produced is very fine—equal to any in the United States—and the annual shipments are very large, the great proportion being sold for export to the English markets, and that sold in the Baltimore markets conceded to be unsurpassed and commanding top prices. Much attention is paid by the leading agriculturists of the county to the introduction of superior breeds of cattle; also of horses, sheep and hogs, of which they make fine exhibits at their annual county fair. Large numbers of fine riding and driving horses are found in this county, and the lamb and wool product is very extensive.

All the fruits of this latitude, such as apples, peaches, pears, plums, quinces and the smaller fruits, grow to great perfection here, and this industry is growing very rapidly in interest and importance. The dairy products and early vegetables find a ready market at the home towns, and are a source of considerable revenue to the people. Other market



W. BERT OF AGR.

A glimpse into one of Virginia's large commercial apple orchards.

advantages are the numerous furnaces and mines of the county that take a large proportion of the farmers' surplus, and at good prices.

Noted as this county is for its great agricultural resources, it is no less so for its mineral wealth. Though small in the extent of its territory in comparison with other counties of this section, Pulaski is making a wide and favorable reputation in this respect—its mineral development in the past few years probably equaling any county of the State. Within its boundaries are found iron and coal in extensive deposits; also zinc, lead, manganese, millstone, grindstone and whetstone rock of superior quality, and fine building stone, both in the limes and sandstone, the latter unexcelled in quantity and quality.

The climate is dry, invigorating and comparatively mild. The elevation being 1,800 to 2,000 feet above sea level, the atmosphere is pure and free from malaria, rendering it exceedingly healthful. Water, very fine, principally limestone, though freestone water is found in some sections.

There are several mineral springs containing alum, lithia and iron, the most noted of which is Hunter's Alum Springs, near Little Walker's creek, eight and a half miles from Pulaski, which has had a growing reputation among the sick dating back fifty years.

Population of county, over 17,246. Pulaski, the chief town and county seat, 5,000 inhabitants.

This county was formed in 1831 from Culpeper, and is located in the northern portion of the State, 100 miles northwest from Richmond, and contains an area of 264 square miles—850 farms, average size farms 195 acres.

RAPPAHANNOCK

The surface is undulating, soil generally fertile and produces fine crops of corn, wheat, oats, tobacco, rye and buckwheat. The soil and climate are especially adapted to the growth of fruit, and all kinds succeed well.

There are large areas of fine grazing lands in the county, and fat cattle, sheep and hogs, in large numbers, are annually shipped to the eastern markets.

Kaolin and iron have been found, but as yet are undeveloped. Timbers are oak, chestnut, pine, hickory, poplar and walnut, and are of good quality and of considerable quantity, especially along the line of the Blue Ridge mountains. Owing to inconvenient transportation facilities, very little timber is shipped from the county, but is manufactured into lumber by the numerous sawmills in operation. The mountain sections furnish large quantities of tanbark for market and local tanneries.

The county is well watered by the headwaters of the Rappahannock river, which also affords most excellent water power. In climate, health and water it is everything that could be desired.

Society is excellent, and all sections of the county well supplied with churches and schools. Mail facilities are ample, and as transportation of the products of the county is wholly by wagons, considerable attention is paid to the turnpikes and other public roads, which are kept in better condition than most counties with as broken surface; and although without railroad facilities, this fine county offers great inducements to settlers on its fertile lands, and the grazing is practically convenient to the Baltimore, Washington and Georgetown markets.

Population of county, census of 1910, 8,944.

Washington, the county seat, is located near the center of the county, twenty-six miles from Culpeper, on the Southern Railway, and eighteen miles from Kimball, on the Norfolk and Western railroad, with which place it has daily mail communication.

Population, census of 1910, 300; increase since last census, forty-eight.

RICHMOND

This county was formed in 1692 from old Rappahannock. It is situated fifty miles southeast from Richmond in the section known as the Northern Neck. It is thirty miles long by about seven miles in width, and contains an area of 188 square miles, one-third in cultivation. Surface undulating; soil a sandy loam with clay subsoil, and very fertile on the lowgrounds.

Farm products are wheat, corn, rye, oats, peas, potatoes, fruits and vegetables, and grasses of various kinds. Trucking is of considerable importance and largely on the increase. The most important and profitable products of the county are the fish and oysters, in which its streams abound in large quantities and of superior quality. Game is abundant and water fowl of choice varieties. Grazing facilities are fairly good. The usual farm stock—horses, cattle, hogs and sheep—are grown, the latter especially are found to be quite profitable.

There are no railroads, but water navigation is convenient via the Rappahannock river and inlets, the former being navigable for large vessels. Market advantages are excellent by a daily line of steamers to Baltimore, Fredericksburg and Norfolk.

Marl is found in large quantities and is used with good effect on the land. Timbers consist of oak, hickory, chestnut, gum, ash, maple, pine, dogwood and elm, the pine and oak being converted into lumber by the numerous sawmills in the county. Rappahannock river and numerous creeks afford ample water supply. There are berry and vegetable canneries and a barrel manufactory for truck and oyster barrels. The climate is mild, health and water good, churches convenient; and educational advantages consist of Farnham Academy and numerous public schools. Telephone service and mail facilities ample, and public roads kept in good repair. This county shows considerable progress, and its people are prosperous and contented. There is much to recommend it to home-seekers in its mild climate, fertile soil—easy of cultivation—cheap and abundant living and convenient access to market.

Population, census of 1910, 7,415.

Warsaw, the county seat, is an inland country village, situated near the center of the county, six miles from the river.

ROANOKE

This county, formed from Botetourt in 1838, is situated west of the Blue Ridge mountains in the famous Roanoke valley, 175 miles almost due west from Richmond. It is twenty miles long and about fifteen miles wide, and contains an area of 297 square miles. Altitude at Salem, 1,006 feet. The surface is undulating, being divided into valleys and mountains, the latter principally on its boundaries. Soil alluvial, clay loam and limestone, very fertile, especially the valleys.

This is a splendid agricultural county, producing large crops of all the staple products—wheat, corn, oats, rye, hay, etc. This county has, in recent years, made great progress in fruit culture, all varieties of which known to this climate do well; such as apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, apricots, grapes and the smaller fruits. Vegetables also are grown to great extent and perfection, which, together with peaches, berries, etc., are put up in large quantities by the various canning establishments located in the county, and Botetourt county, adjacent. The apple culture especially has created much interest in the county, and it is coming to be one of the foremost apple-growing counties in the State, containing some of the largest orchards in the United States. Large shipments of apples are annually made to the markets of Europe direct from the orchards, yielding to the grower from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for the year's crops. Trucking is quite an important industry, and Roanoke city and the coal fields furnish excellent markets for this and other farm products.



A Virginia Hay Harvest.

No State in America is better adapted to growing grass and fine hay. This important industry is increasing every year.

Grazing facilities in this county, in common with all others in this section of the State, are superior, especially in the blue grass section in this northern part. Cattle and sheep are raised extensively, and have direct and quick transportation via Shenandoah Valley railroad to the large markets besides supplying the local demand in Roanoke and Salem.

Most excellent transportation facilities are furnished by the different lines of the Norfolk and Western system traversing the county, which include the main line east and west—the Shenandoah valley division leading northeast to the great cities of that section, and the Roanoke and Southern south through the tobacco counties of the southern Piedmont and into North Carolina, and the new Virginian railroad, which runs the entire length of the county.

Educational advantages are very superior. In addition to its excellent public school system, there are male and female colleges of a high order, notably Roanoke College, located at Salem, and Hollins Institute, located six miles from the city of Roanoke, in a most beautiful and picturesque section, and Virginia College, for the education of women, on the outskirts of Roanoke.

Population of the county (independent of Roanoke city), census of 1910, 19,623.

The above is a good exhibit of growth in population, as part of the county has been annexed to Roanoke city since last census, and the population thereof included with that city in the recent census.

Salem, the county seat, is situated near the center of the county, in the beautiful Roanoke valley, through which flows Roanoke river, and around which rise the Blue Ridge and Alleghany mountains. Lying 1,100 feet above the sea.

ROCKBRIDGE

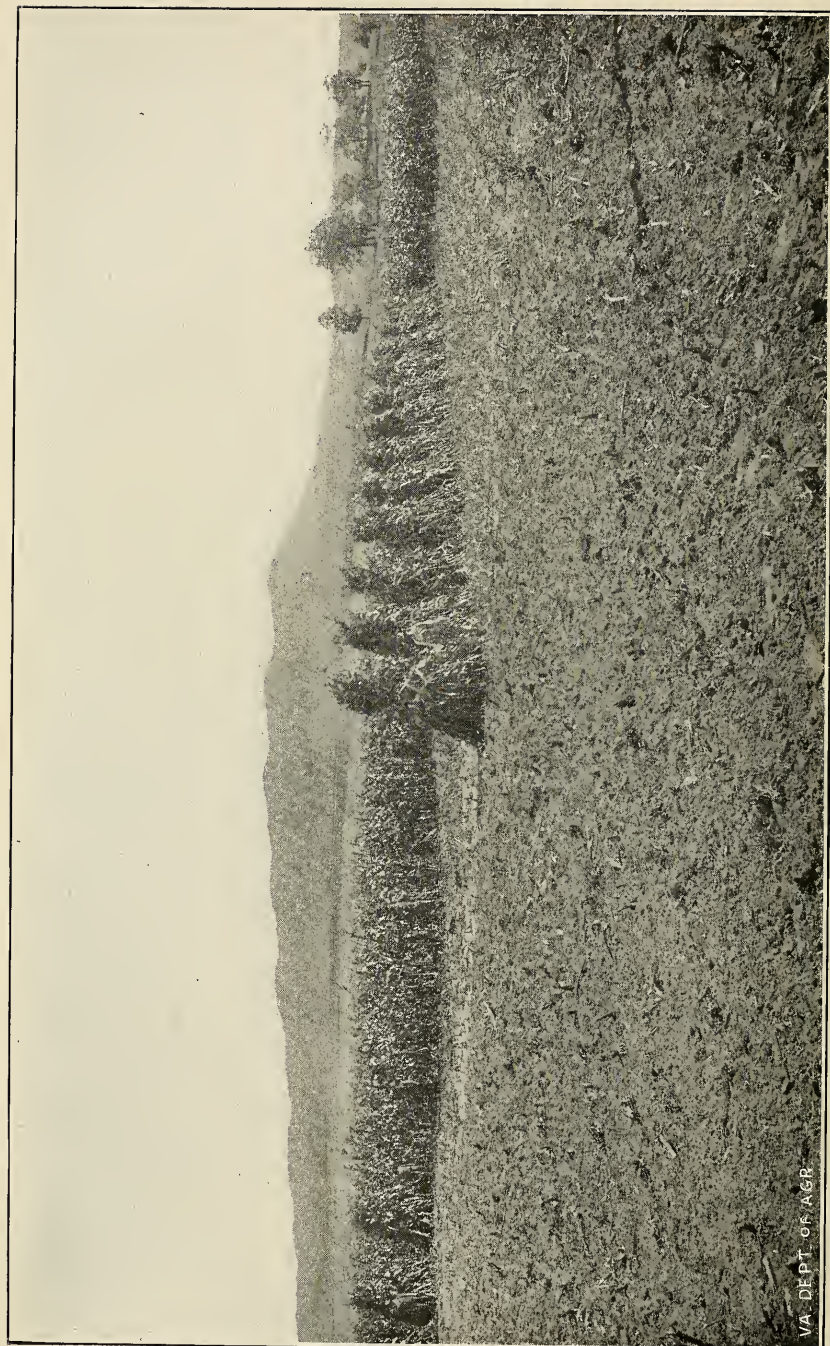
This county was formed from Augusta and Botetourt in 1778, and named from its great natural curiosity, the Natural Bridge. This is one of the great valley counties lying between the Blue Ridge and Alleghany mountains, 159 miles due west from Richmond. It is thirty-one miles in length and twenty-two in width, and contains 593 square miles (about three-fourths in cultivation and pasturage). Average size farms, 150 acres. Farming lands have increased steadily in value.

The surface is rolling and in parts mountainous, especially on the eastern and western borders. The soil is chiefly limestone, very fertile and highly improved, especially in the central portion of the county. Like all the valley counties, this is a rich agricultural and pastoral county, producing fine crops of grain and all the cultivated grasses. Fruits of all kinds do well, and farm dairying and poultry raising are sources of considerable profit. This county has much very fine blue grass grazing lands, which render stock raising profitable and the chief farm industry.

Transportation facilities are very superior, embracing the Chesapeake and Ohio, the Baltimore and Ohio, and Norfolk and Western railroads.

The mineral resources of this county are important and constitute one of its sources of wealth. Its various deposits include iron ore of exceptionally fine quality, tin ore, manganese, barytes, kaolin, gypsum, marble and limestone. Several of these have been developed and are being successfully worked. The mineral waters of this county are numerous, embracing the Rockbridge Alum, Wilson's White Sulphur and Rockbridge Baths—all places of popular resort for health and pleasure. The Natural Bridge hotels furnish a large, popular resort.

The scenery of Rockbridge is grand and picturesque, and the county contains several points of great interest to the traveler and pleasure-seeker, among which the most noted is the Natural Bridge, a natural rock arch 215 feet high and 100 feet wide, spanning Cedar creek, a small



The long growing season and abundant rainfall makes Virginia one of the best corn growing States.

mountain stream, ninety feet. It is famous as being one of the greatest natural curiosities in the world, of which Marshall said: "It is one of God's greatest miracles in stone." Other interesting points are Balcony Falls on the James, and Goshen Pass on North river.

Timber is fairly abundant, of which the principal and most valuable species are oak, pine, poplar, walnut, hickory and chestnut. This county is unusually well watered by the James river through its southern border, North river in the central portion, and by their very numerous tributaries, streams and springs, excellent water power is afforded (some of which is utilized), and good supplies of fish, especially of bass, are found. The most important manufactures of the county are iron furnaces and lime kilns. There are also numerous grain and sawmills.

Population of county, census of 1910, 21,171.

Lexington, the county seat, is situated on North river, near the center of the county, surrounded by a beautiful and fertile country. It is a thriving, growing and beautiful little city. It has excellent railroad facilities, being located on the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Valley division of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. It is lighted by electricity and has an ample supply of perfectly pure spring water supplied from wooded watersheds. It has well paved streets, large public schools and school buildings, beautiful churches (notably Grace Memorial church, Episcopal, which was erected in memory of General Robert E. Lee), three banks of large capital, two newspapers, several fraternal orders, a successful wholesale grocery, large flouring mill and woodworking plant. But perhaps Lexington's most notable feature, and of which she is justly proud, are its two famous institutions of learning, the Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University—the former a State institution, founded in 1839 and controlled by a board of visitors appointed by the Governor; the latter chartered in 1782 as Liberty Hall Academy, first endowed by Washington and later receiving the added lustre of the name of Robert E. Lee, its president for six years after the war. It is now a handsomely endowed, splendidly equipped and extensively patronized university. Lexington is also noted as the home of Stonewall Jackson before the war, and of Robert E. Lee after the war, and is the burial place of both.

Other towns of this county are Buena Vista, Glasgow, Goshen, Collierstown, Brownsburg, Raphine and Fairfield.

ROCKINGHAM

This county was formed from Augusta in the year 1778—132 years ago—and is almost as old as the Federal government, and lies west of the Blue Ridge mountains in the Shenandoah valley, about 130 miles northwest from Richmond. It borders on the State of West Virginia on the northwest, from which it is separated by the North or Shenandoah mountains. It contains an area of 870 square miles. This is one of the big and rich counties of the State.

Its surface is rolling and mountainous on the southeast and northwest borders. The greater portion is valuable farm land and in cultivation, very fertile, and as a grain-producing county it has no peer. In the production of wheat, and average yield per acre, it ranks probably as high as any county in the State. Its best farms have produced as high as forty-five bushels per acre, and twenty-five bushels is considered a fair average. Its yield of corn, rye and barley are in like proportion—the latter embracing nearly half the product of the State. Not only is this a notably fine grain-producing county, but it is peculiarly a grass and stock section, and this is perhaps the principal source of its great prosperity. Hay is grown in great abundance, and being a natural blue grass soil, large numbers of choice cattle, horses and hogs are annually shipped from this county to the northern markets. Some of Virginia's finest horses are reared in this county, and it is considered one of the largest and best

horse markets in the State, having regular sale days at Harrisonburg, at which the sales have been known to aggregate in one day \$25,000 to \$30,000, principally to northern buyers.

This is a very progressive county in the improvement of its highways, good buildings, and general appearance of thrift and prosperity. Financial condition of the county and people is excellent. Wealth is probably more evenly distributed than any other county of the State. Its roads are among the best in Virginia, and furnish good and convenient highways to the various markets throughout the county. Its people are law-abiding, conservative, hospitable and progressive.

Population of county, census of 1910, 34,903.

Other towns are Bridgewater, Singer Glen, Timberville, Mount Crawford, McGaheyville, Dovesville, Keezeltown, Mount Clinton, Linville and Port Republic.

As Rockingham ranks high among the counties of the State in point of area, so it claims a place near the head of the list in wealth, industry and progress. Forty-five years ago, owing to the ravages of war, it lay almost a barren waste; today, instead of lands and property devastated, plenty smiles on every hand, and but for the monuments of her heroes and history, no one would ever dream, when surveying its broad acres of waving grain and grass, that it had undergone the devastating influence of war. At the close of that war its citizens were impoverished, its finances depleted and there was a gloomy prospect for the future; but with that energy characteristic of her people, houses and barns soon again dotted the landscape; fields were fenced and planted, and since that time Rockingham has been taking a leading part in every line of material advancement. To the enterprising farmer, one who farms on a business basis, this county offers rare advantages; indeed, among the counties of the State none offers greater inducements to prospective settlers.

Harrisonburg, the county seat, has a population of 5,000, and one of Virginia's most beautiful towns. 12,000 feet above sea level. The State Normal School for Women is situated here.

RUSSELL

This county was formed in 1786 from Washington. It is situated in the southwestern portion of the State, 370 miles southwest from Richmond, and bounded north by Buchanan and Dickenson, from which it is separated by a mountain range known as Sandy Ridge, south by Washington (Clinch mountain forming the dividing line), west by Scott and Wise, and east by Tazewell county. This is a large county, being forty miles long from east to west, and twenty miles wide from north to south, containing an area of 503 square miles.

The surface to a considerable extent is broken. There are some very fertile sections in the valley and along the streams, producing fine crops of grain and grass, far exceeding the average in most of the counties of the State. Especially is it noted for its extensive area of fine blue grass lands, upon which are raised large numbers of fine cattle that are annually shipped out to supply the export markets.

The principal farm products are wheat, corn, oats, hay, rye and potatoes, that find a ready and remunerative market in the coal mining region near by. Fruits of all kinds common to this latitude do well, especially apples, peaches, grapes, etc. Fish, such as black bass, cat and red-eye, abound in large quantities in the Clinch and its tributaries. The grazing and feeding not only of cattle, but of horses, sheep and hogs, is extensively carried on, and the quality and breeding is exceptionally fine. Stock raising, especially of cattle, is the principal industry of the county.

Total population of county, census of 1910, 23,474.

SCOTT

This county was formed in 1814 from Washington, Russell and Lee, and is situated in the extreme southwest portion of the State, 350 miles from Richmond, its southern boundary being the State of Tennessee.

It has a population, census of 1910, of 23814. It contains an area of 535 square miles, two-thirds of which is in cultivation. The surface is rather mountainous and hilly, although there are some fine farming and blue grass lands along Clinch river, which flows through the county from northwest to southwest, and on Holston river, in the southern part; and also a large amount of land in other sections, while not so smooth, is quite productive, yielding good crops of wheat, corn, rye, oats and buckwheat, especially the former two. It is especially noted for its large production of sorghum and maple sugar, also butter and other dairy products. There is a considerable area devoted to the cultivation of fruit, such as apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries and some grapes.

Grazing facilities are good and stock raising is an important and profitable industry, large numbers of cattle, sheep, horses and mules, of good grade, being marketed every year, and bringing into the county considerable revenue.

This county is very rich in minerals, having an abundance of iron ore (red and brown), manganese, lead, coal, marble of various kinds and superior quality, barytes, fire clay and limestone. Some of these have been developed and mined to some extent. There is fine coal, both cannel and bituminous; zinc, lead, copper and gold, and mineralogists have pronounced Scott the richest in mineral resources of any county in the Appalachian system. Salt is also known to exist in the southeast corner of the county, but to what extent is as yet undeveloped. There are several sulphur and chalybeate springs of known efficacy and reputation, the most important of which are the Holston Springs, on the Holston river, and Hagan's Springs, on Stanton's creek, in the northern part of the county. Considerable areas abound in valuable timber, such as walnut, oak of the various varieties, pine, ash, cedar, lind, hickory, birch, sycamore, elm, etc. The county is well watered by Clinch river and the north fork of the Holston and their tributaries and these streams afford unlimited water power for mills and manufacturing purposes.

It is situated about 1,400 feet above sea level, and when it becomes generally known to the tourist, its perfectly beautiful and enchanting attractions will draw throngs of visitors.

The climate of this county is equable, health uniformly good, and water excellent, large numbers of churches of the various denominations, fine public schools, good telephone service and mail facilities. Financial condition of the county first-class and on a cash basis; and in the matter of progress and general advancement, conditions are highly favorable—as much so as adjoining sections.

Gate City, the county seat, situated on a branch of the Holston river and on the Virginian and Southwestern railroad, which extends from Bristol to Big Stone Gap, is an attractive town.

SHENANDOAH

This county, formed from Frederick in 1772, was originally called Dunmore, and name changed to Shenandoah in 1777. It lies in the northern part of the State 100 miles northwest from Richmond, and joins West Virginia.

It contains an area of 486 square miles. The surface is rolling and mountainous in some parts, especially the eastern and western sections of the county. About one-half of the area is cleared and cultivated. The soil is mostly disintegrated limestone, very strong and durable, and a large proportion of the county is of the best class of bottom and valley lands of great beauty and fertility. It is also noted for the high state of

cultivation which characterizes its improved lands, and is justly called, in connection with the other valley counties, the Garden Spot of Old Virginia.

This county ranks as among the best grain counties of the State, especially for wheat, which is exported principally in the shape of flour, and has a high reputation; also corn, oats, and rye in large quantities are produced. The next and probably equally important industry of the county is stock raising, considerable attention being paid to the introduction of improved grades of cattle, sheep, horses and hogs from Kentucky and elsewhere, and this industry is rendered the more profitable on account of the excellent grazing facilities in the blue grass uplands.

Fruit culture is receiving much attention, and hundreds of thousands of trees have been planted within the last few years. The Strathmore Orchard Company has now 550 acres planted in fruit trees, and the North Shenandoah Fruit Company have thousands of trees in their extensive orchards. Shenandoah ranks among the best fruit producing counties in the State. The apples are of the best quality and command the highest price.

Railroads are the Southern and Baltimore and Ohio, which afford ample transportation facilities to all sections of the county.

Orkney Springs is a place of much resort for health by pleasure-seekers. The north fork of the Shenandoah river, traversing the county its entire length, with its tributaries, afford ample water supply and good water power for manufacturing purposes. The climate is temperate, healthful and invigorating, and the water excellent. Schools and churches are abundant, all denominations of the latter being represented. Telephone and mail service is extensive, affording ample facilities of communication with all parts of the county.

Population, census of 1910, 20,942.

Woodstock, the county seat, is located near the center of the county on the Manassas branch of the Southern railway.

Other flourishing towns of the county are Edinburg, Mt. Jackson, New Market and Strasburg.

This county was formed in 1831 from Washington and Wythe and is located in Southwestern Virginia, 240 miles from Richmond. The Clinch range of mountains rises to a height of 4,000 to 4,500 feet above sea level. The Iron mountain rises in its White Top and

SMYTH

Balsam peaks (in the southwest corner) to the magnificent height of 5,540 and 5,730 feet, respectively, marking them as the highest in Virginia.

The county is thirty-two miles in its greatest length from north to south and twenty-two miles wide from east to west, and contains an area of 486 square miles. The surface is mainly hilly, and mountainous in parts. The valleys of the north, middle and south forks of the Holston river, including Rich Valley on the north side of Walker's mountain, and Rye Valley on the south side of the county, show all the fine features characteristic of the best lands of the Valley of Virginia. There is a large area of level or river bottom land lying along each of these rivers, affording alluvial deposits of great depth and fertility, and capable of constant cropping without deterioration. The lands are mainly in the limestone area and yield largely of the various crops produced—corn, wheat, oats, rye, buckwheat and hay. Cabbage is a very remunerative crop, large quantities of which are produced and shipped from the county to southern points and the coal fields every year. Dairy, orchard and vegetable products are very considerable and are sources of much revenue to the farmers. Fish culture should become an important industry in this county. The streams are well adapted to game fish and are very well stocked with different varieties, such as bass, red-eye, chub, suckers, and some mountain trout.

The most profitable branch of labor in this county is stock raising and grazing. The area of limestone or strictly grass lands probably embrace more than half the county. In Rich Valley, Saltville and other sections of the county are found thousands of acres of blue grass of indigenous growth, equaling in every respect the far-famed blue grass lands of Kentucky; and as a consequence large numbers of fine cattle are annually raised and exported. Much attention is paid to the grade of cattle, and this county can boast of having the largest herd of short-horn cattle in the State, and is also noted for its fine horses and sheep.

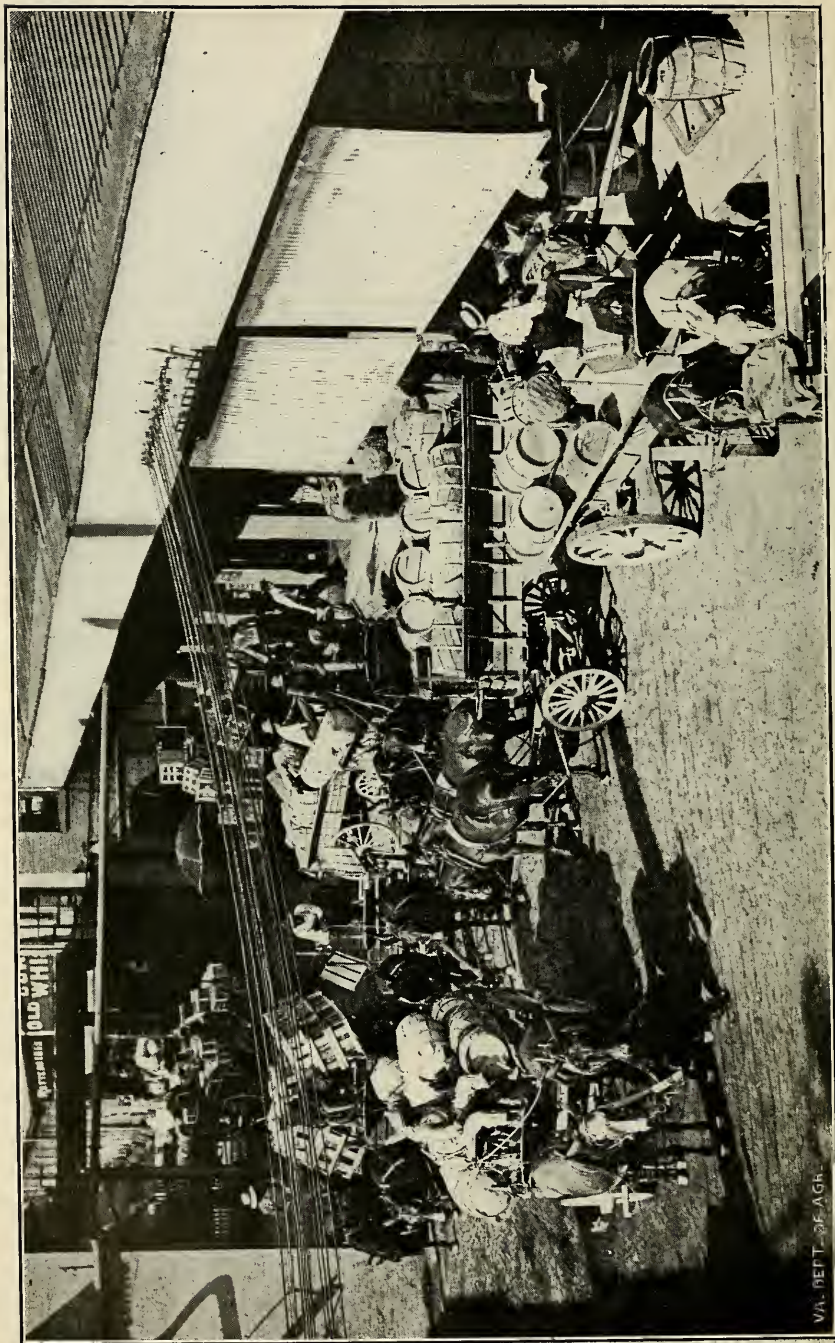
This county possesses unusual importance on account of its great mineral wealth, the principal source is the immense deposits of salt and plaster at Saltville and vicinity. The latter is also developed and being mined in other sections of the county. These salt and plaster



Southwest Virginia is a large producer of late cabbage and is convenient for shipment over the South and to Cuba.

deposits are considered to be the most extensive and valuable to be found in the United States, immense quantities of each having been mined and manufactured for many years, bringing into the county a large annual revenue. There is also a large alkali plant at Saltville devoted to the manufacture of alkali, soda ash, bleaching powder, etc., erected at a cost of \$3,000,000, and employing a large amount of labor.

Besides the extensive alkali and salt works at Saltville there are other important manufactories in the county, such as iron furnaces and forges, woolen mills, tanneries, brick works, and the requisite number of good grist and sawmills. In the three important elements and attractions to any county—climate, health and water—it will not be



V.A. DEPT. OF AGR.

TRUCKING IN VIRGINIA IS A GREAT INDUSTRY.

Virginia is the greatest trucking State in this country. The area is spreading over a larger territory each year. The Norfolk and Eastern Shore sections shipped this year 10,000,000 packages and barrels of trucks, worth \$15,000,000.

amiss to say that this county equals any in the State. Churches representing the different religious denominations are very numerous, and the public school system is kept up to a high state of efficiency. Telephone service reaches nearly all sections, and mail facilities are extensive and all that could be desired. In all material, social and other respects, this may justly rank among the first of the counties of the southwest, or of the State, and very few sections of the United States deserve more favorable mention. Its increase in population shows that it is being appreciated.

Population, census 1910, 20,326.

Warrenton, the county seat, is a thriving, handsome town of considerable business.

This county was formed in 1784 from Isle of Wight. It lies in the southeastern portion of the State, fifty miles from Richmond, thirty-six miles from Norfolk, and borders the State of North Carolina on the south. It contains an area of 60 square miles.

SOUTHAMPTON

The surface is level; soil a medium light and sandy loam, with clay subsoil, naturally very productive, especially the broad and fertile lowlands on the streams.

Farm products are cotton, peanuts, corn, rye, oats, potatoes and some wheat. Southampton ranks above all the other counties of the State in the production of cotton, raising over 5,000 bales annually. Cotton gins of the most modern type are conveniently located in different parts of the county. Cotton and peanuts may be considered the most profitable products of the county, though large revenue is derived from other sources, notably truck, fruits and lumber. Some of the largest apple orchards of the State are found here, and other fruits, such as pears, peaches, grapes, plums, cherries and berries of all kinds are grown abundantly; also cranberries grow to great perfection on the alluvial bottoms. The soil and climate are admirably adapted to the raising of vegetables, and melons of the finest quality and flavor are produced. Sweet and Irish potatoes, and peas of every variety grow to great perfection and abundance. Many of the farmers are turning their attention to the cultivation of the grasses, which have been found to grow luxuriantly.

Cattle do well, requiring little feed and attention during the winter months. Hogs are raised in large numbers, and a number of land owners are paying more attention to sheep husbandry, which is carried on very profitably by reason of the many fine grazing lands in different sections of the county.

Population, census of 1910, 26,302.

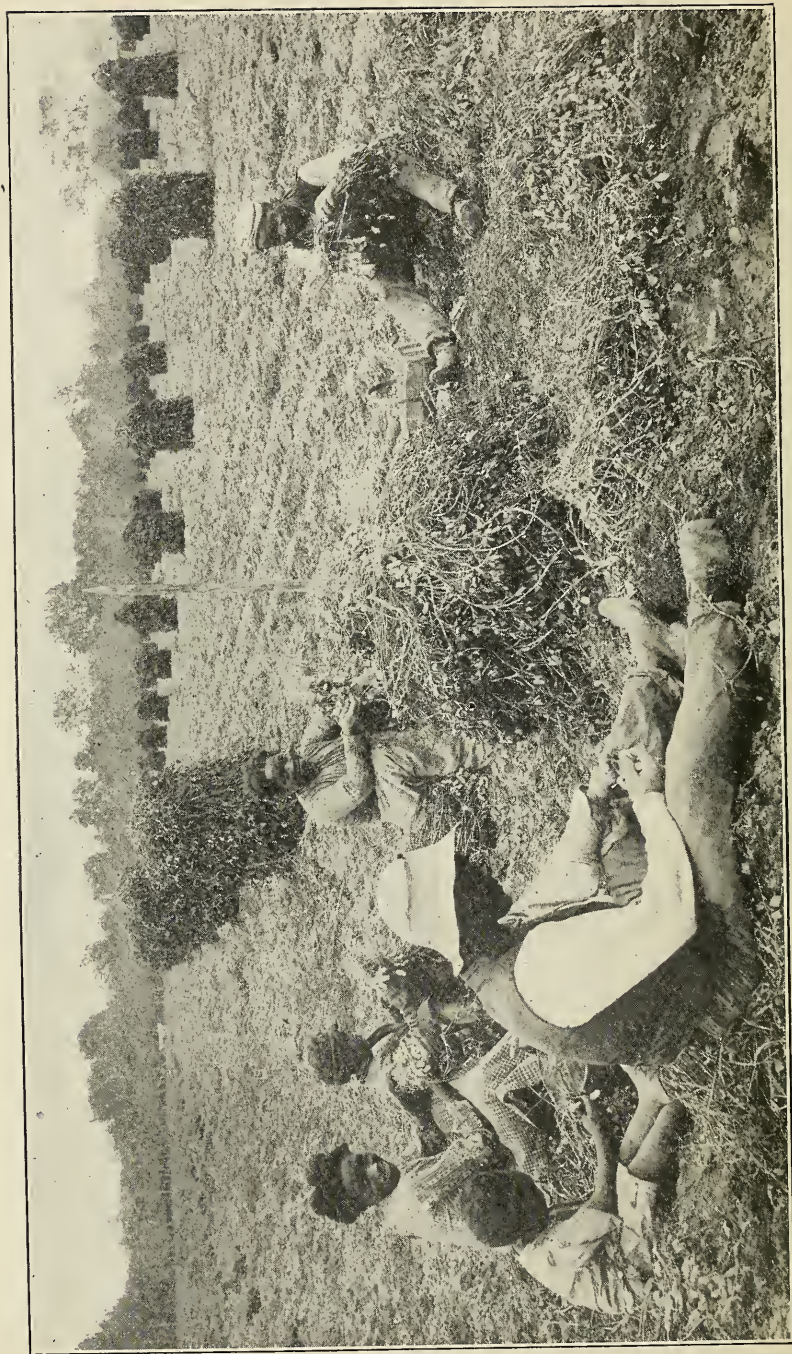
Courtland, the county seat, is located in the central portion of the county.

Other towns in the county are Franklin, Boykins, Ivor, Drewryville, Capron, Branchville and Newsoms.

SPOTSYLVANIA

This county was formed in 1720 from Essex, King William and King and Queen, and is situated about forty-five miles (almost due north) from Richmond. It is twenty-five miles long from north to south, and seventeen miles wide from east to west, and contains an area of 401 square miles (about one-half cultivated).

The surface is rolling and the soil productive and varied in kind and quality, the uplands being a stiff clay, while that of the bottoms and valleys is a sandy loam, the latter producing fine crops of corn and other products. Other products are wheat, oats, rye, potatoes, hay and tobacco. Fruits, pears and grapes do well, also vegetables; and large quantities of both are sold in the Fredericksburg and other markets. Dairying and poultry raising have largely increased and are a source of consider-



PEANUTS.

The Virginia peanut is of the finest quality and the crop is valued at \$5,000,000 annually.

able revenue to the farmers in connection with general farming. Fish are abundant, and on the rivers are found the choicest of tidewater fowls, and in the marshes sora, woodcock, etc. Considerable attention is given to improved breeds of horses, sheep and cattle, of which there are several fine herds of the latter in the county.

Population, census of 1910, 9,935.

Spotsylvania is the county seat.

STAFFORD This county was formed from Westmoreland in 1765, and lies between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers in the northeastern portion of the State, sixty miles north from Richmond. It contains an area of 285 square miles, sixty per cent. of which is in cultivation.

This surface is generally rolling; soil a sandy loam, naturally good, and with proper treatment capable of great improvement. Farm products are wheat, corn, rye and oats, of which good crops are produced; also the grasses (clover and orchard grass) are successfully grown. The most profitable industries of the county are its fruit, vegetable and poultry products, which are extensive, and find ready sale in the nearby Washington and Fredericksburg markets. The pickling industry is especially important.

Large fisheries on the Potomac and tributaries afford profitable employment to labor and an important article of food supply to the people. Grazing facilities are fairly good, especially for sheep, and the rearing of early lambs for the Washington and Baltimore markets is a source of considerable revenue to the farmers. In addition to excellent water transportation facilities by the Potomac and its tributaries, the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad traverses the county north and south, affording choice of markets and convenient access to same.

Population of county, census of 1910, 8,070.

Stafford courthouse is the county seat.

SURRY This county is one of the oldest counties in the State, having been formed from James City county in 1652. It lies on the south side of James river, thirty-five miles southeast from Richmond. It contains an area of 292 square miles.

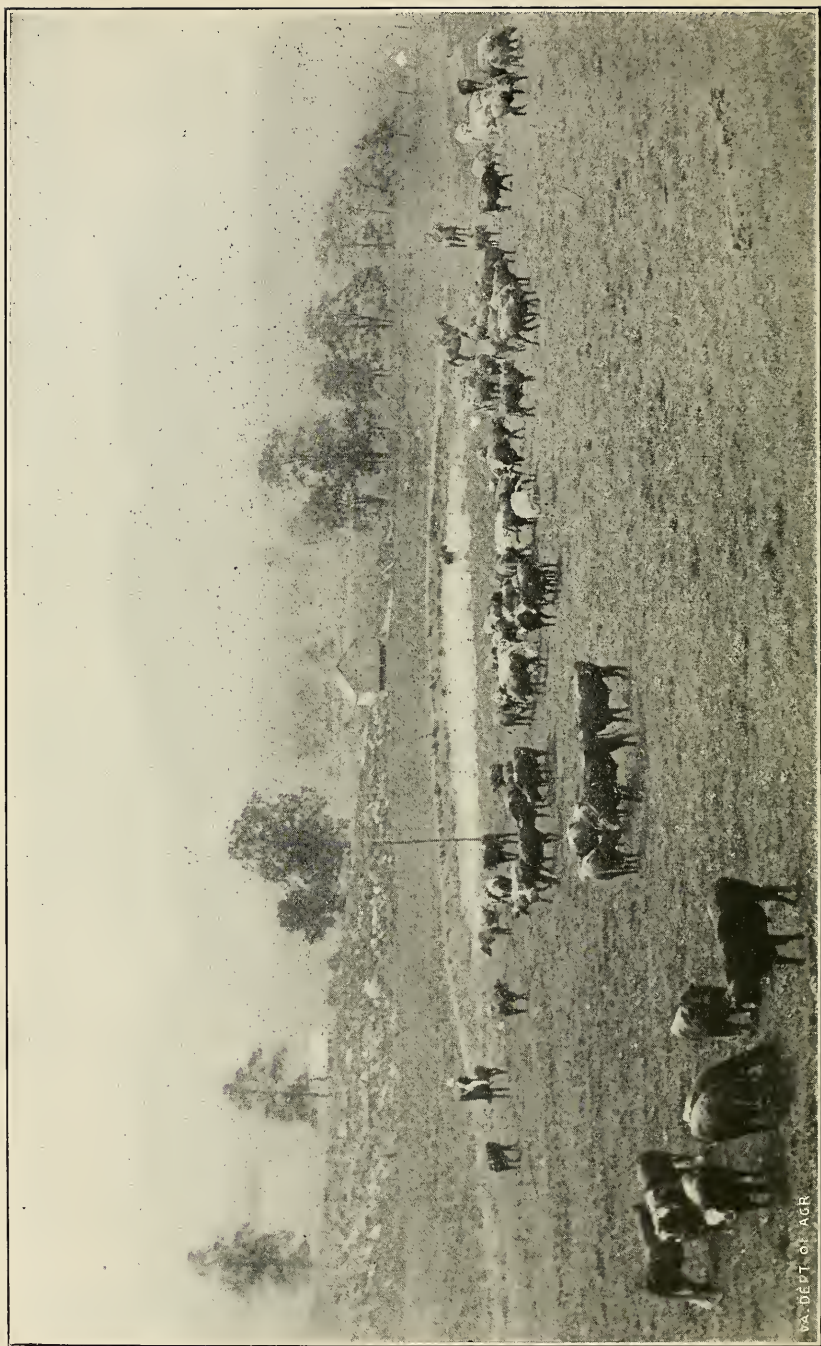
The surface is generally level and soil light and sandy. Principal products are corn, wheat, oats and peanuts, especially the latter, large quantities of which are produced; and so well is the soil adapted to their growth that the lands on that account have very materially increased in value.

This county is well supplied with railroad facilities, having the Atlantic and Danville passing up from the south near the center of the county to Claremont on the northwest border; the Surry, Sussex and Southampton railway, from its connection with the Norfolk and Western railway at Wakefield, on the southern border through the county to its water terminus on James river; the Norfolk and Western along its southwestern border, and eleven miles of the Surry Lumber Company's narrow gauge road connecting with the Atlantic and Danville railroad at Spring Grove. James river also affords extensive shipping facilities, daily steamers of various lines touching at its numerous wharves.

Marl exists in great abundance, is very accessible, and it is utilized to some extent as a fertilizer. About two-thirds of the county is in timber, principally pine, oak, hickory, poplar, beech, walnut, cypress, holly and the gums, much of which is converted into lumber and firewood for northern markets.

Population, census of 1910, 9,715.

Surry, the county seat, is located in the northeastern part of the county on the Surry, Sussex and Southampton railway, five miles from James river, and fifty-five miles southeast from Richmond.



VA. DEPT. OF AGR.

A bunch of Governor Stuart's export cattle, resting on an old luxuriant blue grass sod.

SUSSEX

This county, formed from Surry in 1754, is located in the southeast part of the State, thirty-five miles from Richmond. It contains an area of 490 square miles—313,600 acres, 930 farms; average size farms 225 acres. The surface is slightly rolling. Soil, light sandy loam,

with clay sub-soil.

Peanuts are the great money crop and great quantities are shipped, the yield varying from twenty-five to one hundred bushels per acre. Corn, oats, cotton, wheat, Irish and sweet potatoes are other principal crops in the order named. Apples, peaches, pears, grapes and small fruits yield abundantly. Clover, alfalfa and the grasses are being grown more largely every year, and on account of the long season, give heavy yields. The natural grasses are abundant and nutritious, and stock can graze in the fields the greater part of the year.

Railroad and market facilities are excellent, furnished by the Norfolk and Western, Atlantic Coast Line and Southern railways, which traverse the northeast, southwest and southeastern portions, respectively.

Marl is abundant, and is used to good effect.

Pine is the principal timber, considerable quantities of which are converted into lumber. Blackwater river on the northeast border, and Nottoway river in the central portion, and their branches, furnish sufficient water supply and drainage. Climate mild, health and water good. Primary and high schools and churches of the different denominations are numerous and convenient.

Population, census of 1910, 13,664.

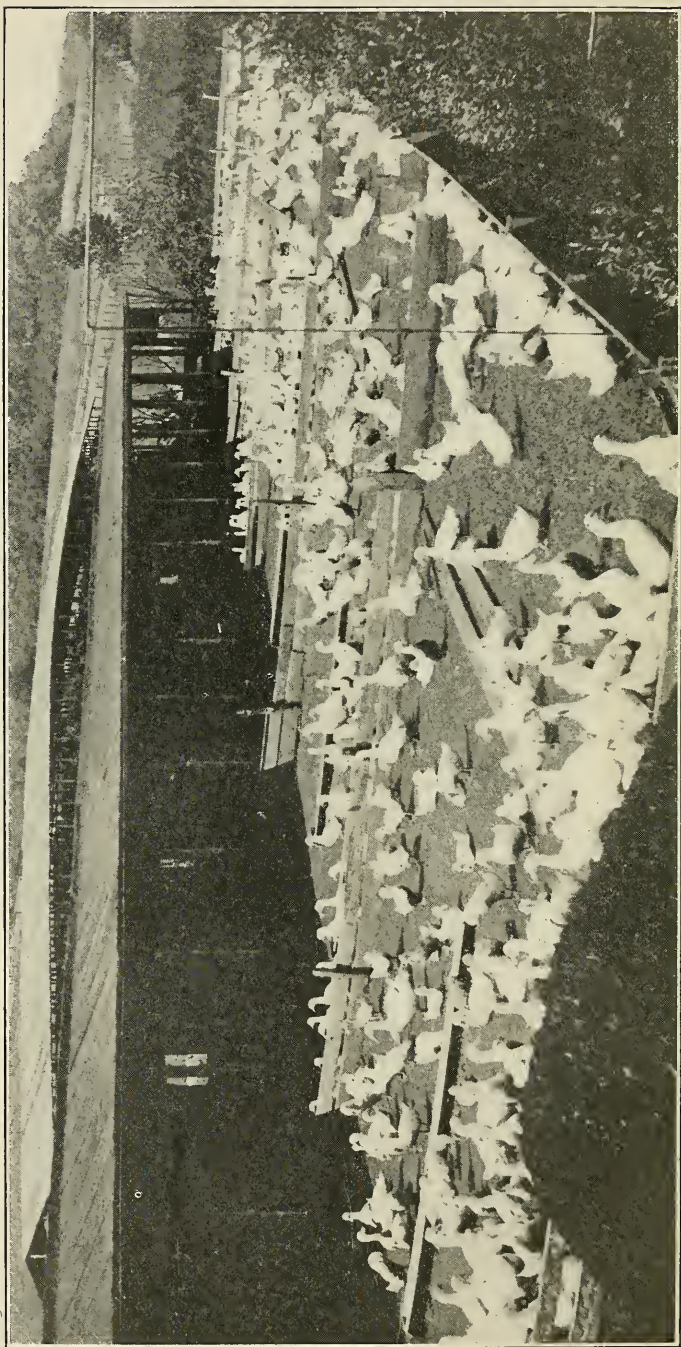
The county is principally agricultural, but Stony Creek and Jarratt on the Atlantic Coast Line, and Wakefield and Waverly, on the Norfolk and Western, are thriving towns, with good business houses, banks, high schools and roomy churches—Waverly the largest, with two sawmills, two stove mills, cannery, peanut factory, planing mill, electric lights and paved streets. Many northern and western people have settled near Waverly the past few years, among them many Germans. Land values are increasing rapidly, and it is only a question of a few years before this section will become a county of small farms, with land values as high as those in the north.

This county was formed from Russell and Wythe in 1799, and is situated in the southwestern portion of the State, about 325 miles southwest from Richmond. It is forty miles in length, with an average width of about eighteen miles, and contains an area of 557 square miles (about

one-half being under cultivation).

Much of the surface is mountainous, and lying between are many extensive and very fertile valleys. The soil is principally limestone, and very productive, and a striking peculiarity of this county is that the lands are generally fertile to the tops of the mountains, and don't wash. The lands are well adapted to the production of the various grains—corn, wheat, rye, oats, etc., and the cultivated grasses, clover, timothy, orchard and herds grass. But while bountiful crops of grain and grass can be produced, the farmers prefer to preserve their fine blue grass sod and engage in the much less expensive and much more congenial and profitable occupation of grazing cattle, which is the leading industry of the county. Large numbers of cattle (unsurpassed in quality) are annually sold from this county, a large proportion of them for export purposes; also quantities of sheep of the finest grade, and no section of the State is better supplied with fine draft and saddle horses.

Tazewell has perhaps the largest grazing capacity of any of the Southwest Virginia counties. With the exception of a part of the coal belt, perhaps three-fourths of its area is well adapted to agricultural and grazing purposes, and within that area there is a wealth of blue grass



A section of one of the largest duck ranches in the east.

lands which are the admiration of all who see them. Even the lofty ridges and mountains to their summits are covered with a luxuriant growth of blue grass which is indigenous. Another very important advantage, fitting it for grazing purposes, is that it is exceptionally well watered.

Considerable attention is being paid to fruit culture, to which the county is well adapted. The dairy, vegetable and poultry products find a ready and remunerative market at the nearby coal mines. Game is abundant, and the streams, being well supplied with bass and other fish, furnish excellent sport.

Tazewell is especially rich in minerals.

Tazewell courthouse is county seat.

Population of the county, census of 1910, 24,946.

WARREN

This county was formed in 1836 from Frederick and Shenandoah, and is situated in the northern part of the State, nearly 100 miles, air line, northwest from Richmond. It lies on the western slope of the Blue Ridge mountains, which separate it from Rappahannock and Fauquier on the southeast, and Frederick on the north, Clarke on the northeast, Shenandoah west, and Page southwest. It is twenty miles long and twelve miles in width, containing an area of 226 square miles.

The surface is rolling and mountainous in some portions. About fifty per cent. is in cultivation. The soil is limestone and very fertile. Farm products are wheat, corn, oats, rye, buckwheat, potatoes and the grasses.

The climate and soil are well adapted to the growing of fruits, and much care and attention is given to this industry, which is one of the most profitable in the county; grape culture, especially, has been extensively and successfully carried on for many years, and utilized in the manufacture of much fine wine. One of the oldest and largest vineyards of the South is located here.

Considerable attention is paid to the raising of poultry. Fifty thousand ducks are sold annually from the largest duck farm in the world at Riverton. Stock raising ranks as one of the most important and profitable industries of the county. Large numbers of fat cattle are annually shipped to the northern and eastern markets.

Population, census of 1910, 8,589.

Front Royal, the county seat, is located at the junction of the Shenandoah division of the Norfolk and Western, and the Manassas branch of the Southern railroad. It is one of the most prosperous and attractive towns in the Valley of the Shenandoah, and is noted for the hospitality and refinement of its people. Situated in the heart of one of the finest farming sections of the State, its commercial and manufacturing interests are varied and considerable. It has factories for making handles, collars, cigars; and also several large hotels, numerous business houses, educational institutions, public schools, newspapers, two banks, churches, and fraternal orders. It has macadamized streets, brick sidewalks and a good system of water works and electric lights. Educational institutions include Randolph-Macon Academy, under the supervision of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South—a school of fine standing, elegant buildings and complete faculty; Front Royal College, with four departments, and a large high school building.

WARWICK

This county, though now a small county in area and one of the smallest in the State in population, was one of the original shires into which the State was divided in 1634, and was named for the town of Warwick in England. It lies in a narrow strip along the northern shores of the James river entrance into the Chesapeake bay, and contains an area of 85 square miles.

The surface is level, soil a sandy loam, fairly productive and easily cultivated and improved. The most profitable products are wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, etc., the average yield of which is very good. Trucking, market gardening and poultry raising are growing in importance and value. Fish, oysters and wild fowl are abundant, the trade in which constitutes a very important feature of the business of the county.

Railroads are the Chesapeake and Ohio, and the Newport News, Hampton and Old Point railways, the former traversing the county from northwest to southeast, and having its southeastern terminus at Newport News.

Marl, the only mineral, is found in large quantities and of excellent quality. The timber supply is rather limited. Principal varieties are oak, pine, ash and gum, much of which is worked by the sawmills in operation in the county. The James and Warwick rivers afford ample drainage and excellent transportation facilities. Market advantages are excellent; the cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News and Hampton furnish superior facilities in this respect. The climate is mild; health and water good. Churches are numerous, and the public schools in a flourishing condition. Telephone service and mail facilities are ample, and in progress and general advancement there has been great improvement in the county since the extension of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway to Newport News, in the southeast portion of the county.

Population of the county (independent of the city of Newport News), census of 1910, 6,041.

The wild animals of the county are deer, fox, raccoon, squirrel and hare. The water fowls of that region abound, besides which there are such game birds as wild turkeys, partridges, woodcock and sora, and the large proportion of water front creeks and inlets make the county exceedingly popular with sportsmen and fishermen.

This county, formed January 28, 1776, from Fincastle, is situated in the southwestern portion of the State—350 miles by rail, 240 air line, from Richmond. It is one of the largest counties in the Southwest, containing an area of 605 square miles.

WASHINGTON

The surface is generally undulating, and mountainous in parts, especially on the northern and southern borders, though least mountainous of any of the Southwest counties. Its valleys are broad and present a beautiful picture in the alternation of hill and dale, of woodland and pasture. Soil varies in character and quality, but all lie upon a stratum of yellow or red clay, very fertile and productive and wears well. The gray or gravelly soil is adapted to wheat, rye and tobacco, and the dark alluvial soil to corn and grass. The principal and most profitable farm products are wheat, corn, rye, oats, hay and tobacco, of which abundant crops are annually produced, though the tobacco production has fallen off from 2,000,000 pounds in 1889 to 500,000 in 1909. This is a superior grass-producing section, especially of clover, timothy and orchard grass, that yields largely, and much of which is grown. Tobacco is not as profitably grown as formerly. Fruits of the various kinds, such as apples, pears, peaches, plums, grapes, etc., grow to perfection and yield abundantly. Considerable revenue is derived from the poultry and egg products, which have a fine local market. The county abounding to a large extent in the spontaneous growth of blue grass, stock raising is the chosen and most profitable occupation of a large number of the most enterprising farmers of the county.

Owing to the value of the salt wells in the Saltville basin it was made the dividing line between Washington and Smyth counties, so as to throw equal values of this great wealth into each of the counties, and it would be difficult to estimate the approximate quantity of the Saltville deposit assignable to Washington county; but it may be confidently as-



A scene at the Tazewell County Fair in Southwest Virginia. To see the fine live stock as shown at these Fairs is an inspiration to any farmer.

serted that it has inexhaustible deposits of both salt and plaster close to the Washington-Smyth line, and dividing as it does with Smyth this valuable territory, a more specific description will suffice for both, which will be found in report of Smyth county. Mineral springs are numerous and valuable, embracing chalybeate, alum, magnesia and sulphur waters, the most noted of which are the Seven Springs, on the Saltville branch of the Norfolk and Western railroad, at which is made the famous "Seven Springs Iron and Alum Mass," of great efficacy in many forms of disease. Mongel's Springs, situated nine miles northwest of Abingdon, has a high local reputation for curative virtues, and with proper accommodations for visitors, should command a good patronage. Washington Springs are situated one and one-half miles from Glade Springs in a lovely and healthful spot amid the mountains, and are regarded as having valuable medicinal and curative properties. There are four distinct varieties of the water, the most effective being the Alum, Chalybeate, and the White Sulphur Springs.

Population of the county, census of 1910, 32,830.

Abingdon, the county seat.

This county was formed in 1653 from Northumberland, and is situated in the northeast portion of the State on the lower Potomac river, fifty-five miles northeast from Richmond. Its average length is thirty miles, width ten miles. It contains an area

WESTMORELAND

of 245 square miles, and a population by last census of 9,313.

The surface is generally level, but hilly in some portions. Soil light loam on river bottoms, stiffer clay on uplands, and easy of cultivation.

Farm products are corn, wheat, millet, rye, clover, and peas for hay. Potatoes, sweet and Irish, do well, and the raising of clover seed for market is a considerable industry. Orchard grass and timothy are successfully grown. Fruits of the various varieties, such as apples, peaches, pears, plums, strawberries, etc., grow well, and several canneries are located in the county. The climate and soil is especially adapted to the raising of vegetables, and trucking is becoming quite an important industry. The numerous creeks and inlets along the Potomac boundary abound in the finest of fish, oysters and wild fowl. There are large natural oyster beds on these tidal waters, and the species of fish obtained embrace trout, rock, herring, shad and perch, which are caught by nets, traps and seines.

This county enjoys the proud distinction of having been the birthplace of two of the Presidents of the United States—George Washington and James Monroe—besides another no less honored and distinguished Virginian, General R. E. Lee. Montross, the county seat, is an ancient town of some importance, located near the southern border, six miles distant from landings on both Potomac and Rappahannock rivers, with which there is daily mail communication. There has recently been erected a handsome new courthouse and clerk's office.

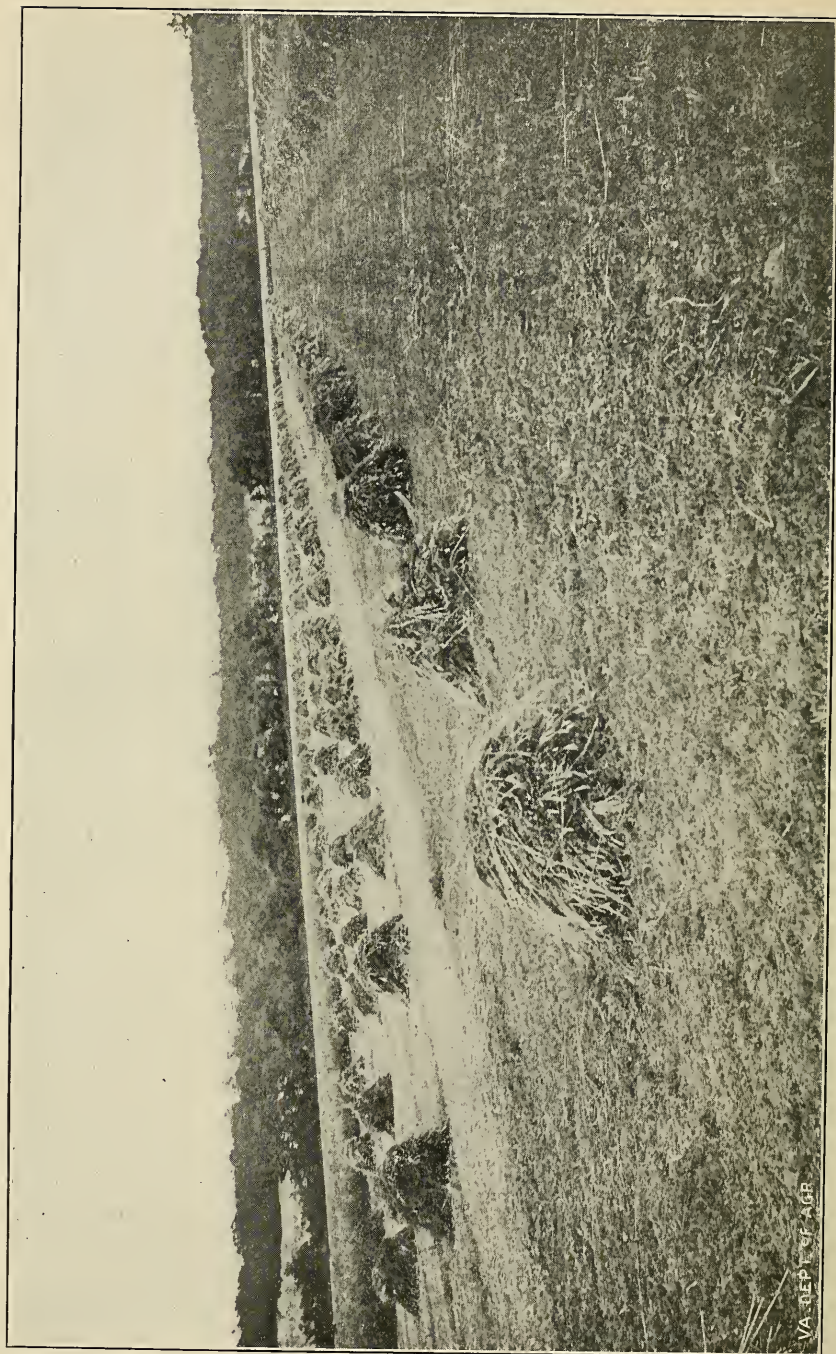
This county was formed in 1856 from Russell, Lee and Scott, and named in honor of Henry A. Wise, then governor. It is situated in the great Cumberland range, in the extreme southwestern portion of the State, 380 miles from Richmond, and is bounded on the north by the

WISE.

State of Kentucky. It contains an area of 413 square miles (under cultivation, twenty-five per cent.).

The surface is hilly and mountainous. Soil mostly sandy.

Farm products are corn, rye, oats, millet, potatoes and sorghum, and the lands are also very well adapted to the growing of vegetables and fruits. All the products of the farm find a ready and remunerative sale with the numerous and extensive mining operations in the county.



The hay crop last year averaged \$19.00 per ton in Virginia.

Transportation facilities are very good, embracing the Louisville and Nashville and Norfolk and Western, and Virginia and Southwestern railroads. The South and Western, and the Virginia and Southeastern are important lines now being constructed into the county. There are six short independent lines in the county, used principally as feeders for the mineral interests of the county, which are various and valuable, and destined to make it one of the wealthiest counties in the State.

The most important minerals are iron ores and coal (bituminous, splint and cannel). Limestone and sandstone for building and other purposes are of very superior quality and abundant, the latter being very cheaply quarried and made ready for use in any desired shape or size. Iron is found in large deposits, especially in the neighborhood of Big Stone Gap, in the southwest portion of the county. Here, in close proximity to each other, are iron ore, limestone and coal, and few localities are more favorably situated for the manufacture of iron. Since the construction of convenient transportation facilities, these ores are being largely developed and mined, and extensively worked by the furnaces here in operation. But its great wealth consists in its immense deposits of coal, having the greatest amount of valuable bituminous and cannel coal to be found in any county of the State, the industrial value of which can scarcely be overestimated. In fact, there are few areas of like size and value in this particular to be found in the world. Since the building of railroads through the county, rapid progress has been made here in the coal and coke industry. From year to year new mines are being opened, and coke plants constructed, until this county has become a hive of industry, teeming with thousands of laborers; and the indications point to the establishment here of some of the largest collieries and coke plants in the United States.

The manufacturing enterprises of note are iron furnaces and foundries, grist, saw and planing mills, a silicon brick plant, a large tannery, and an extract plant at Big Stone Gap. Climate healthful and invigorating, average temperature fifty-five degrees, rainfall about fifty-four inches. Water fairly good.

Total population, census of 1910, 34,162.

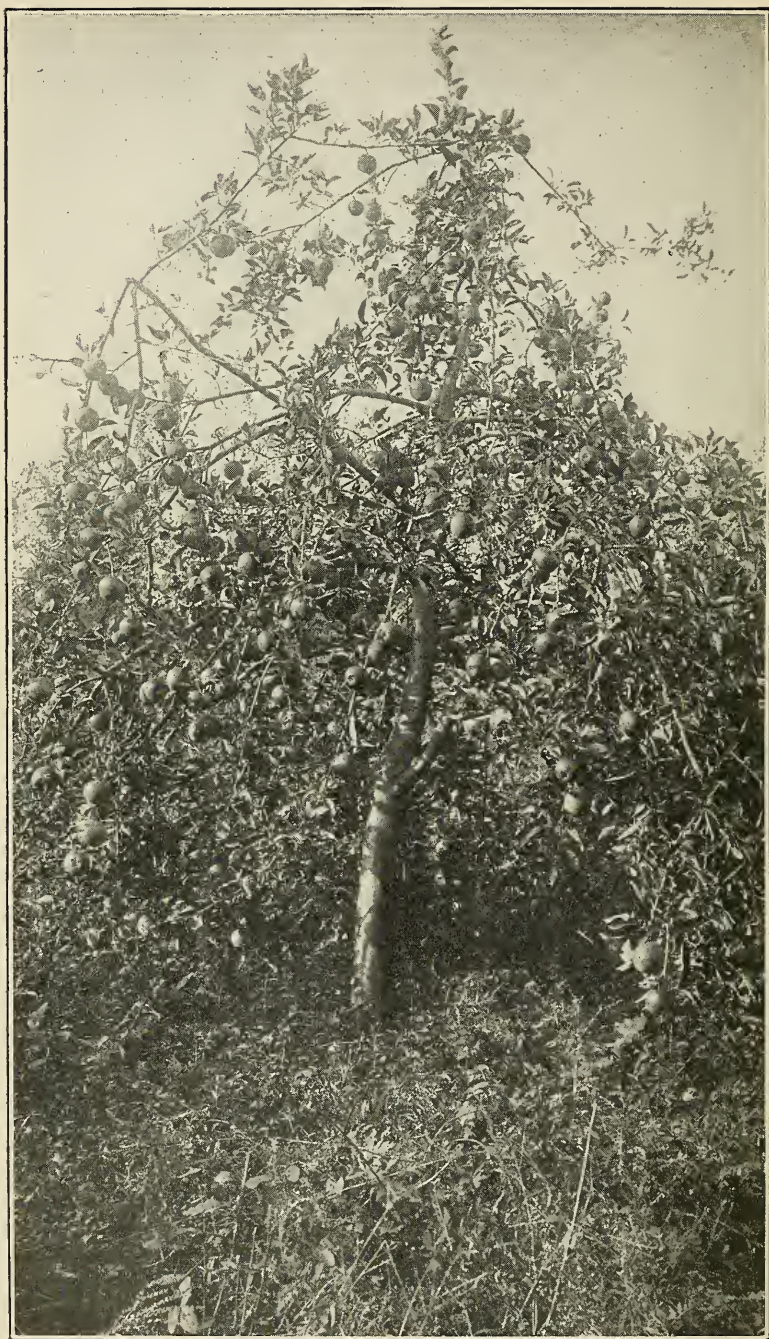
Wise, the county seat, is located near the center of the county, five miles from Norton, the junction of the Clinch Valley division of the Norfolk and Western railroad and the Louisville and Nashville railroad.

This county was formed from Montgomery in 1790. It is located west of the Blue Ridge, in the southwest portion of the State, 270 miles southwest from Richmond, in the midst of the great mining and grazing section.

It contains an area of 474 square miles, one-half being under cultivation. Lands vary much in price as they do in value.

The surface is varied, alternately mountain and valley. Several mountain ranges traverse the county, mainly from northeast to southwest, between which lie extensive and very fertile valleys, notably Reed creek, Cripple creek, and headwaters of Holston on the west, forming an elevated plateau of high tableland from east to west. These valleys contain blue grass and farming lands of a high order that are scarcely surpassed in the State.

The staple crops are corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, millet and hay, abundant yields of which are produced. Fruits and vegetables of various kinds are successfully grown, and these industries are receiving increased attention every year, and in portions of the county constitute a very important and profitable source of revenue to the farmers, for which there is always a ready cash market. The raising of cabbage, Irish potatoes and apples in the western part of the county is becoming quite an industry. These products are mostly shipped to the southern



A six-year-old Virginia winesap apple tree doing its best.

markets and bring remunerative prices. Being situated between the North and the South gives this location an unusual advantage in disposition of her products. The cabbage industry has built up an important business center at Rural Retreat, with good hotels, banks, mercantile houses, etc., which attracts much attention in the wholesale vegetable market.

The United States Fish Hatchery, three and a half miles west of Wytheville, is quite an important enterprise in the county, and is rapidly stocking the waters of the State with the best varieties of fish.

Agriculture is carried to its highest perfection in this county in the department of grazing, and in this respect it is scarcely excelled in the State. Its cattle, sheep and horse products are immensely remunerative, much of the former being exported and commanding the highest prices. Transportation facilities are excellent, furnished by the Norfolk and Western railroad, passing through the heart of the county, and the Cripple Creek branch of the Norfolk and Western railroad extending into the great mining region of the southeastern portion of the county; also a branch of the latter ten or twelve miles into a rich mineral section, developing the celebrated Cripple Creek iron ores.

This is one of the richest counties in the State in the variety, quality and extent of its minerals, and in their development the county is making rapid strides toward a position of commercial importance well calculated to excite the just pride of her citizens. Alternating with each other on the south side of the county are wonderful veins and deposits of iron ores, manganese ores, and lead and zinc ores of extraordinary purity; while in the northern half of the county fine magnetic and brown iron ores are abundant. These minerals have been developed and found to exist in immense quantities, and are being worked on a large scale in different sections of the county, the large works affording an excellent home market for the products of the farm. There are various mineral waters in the county, the principal of which are its many alum-chalybeate springs, also the arsenic bromo-lithia springs, which are fast coming into favor and are of high medicinal virtue.

Total population, 20,372.

Wytheville, the chief town and county seat, is a pretty and flourishing place, is situated near the center of the county and is 2,360 feet above the sea level.

This county was one of the original shires into which Virginia was divided in 1634. It was first known as Charles county, but changed to York in 1642. It lies fifty miles south by east of Richmond. It is thirty miles long with a mean breadth of five miles, and contains an area of 124 square miles, one-half of which is in cultivation.

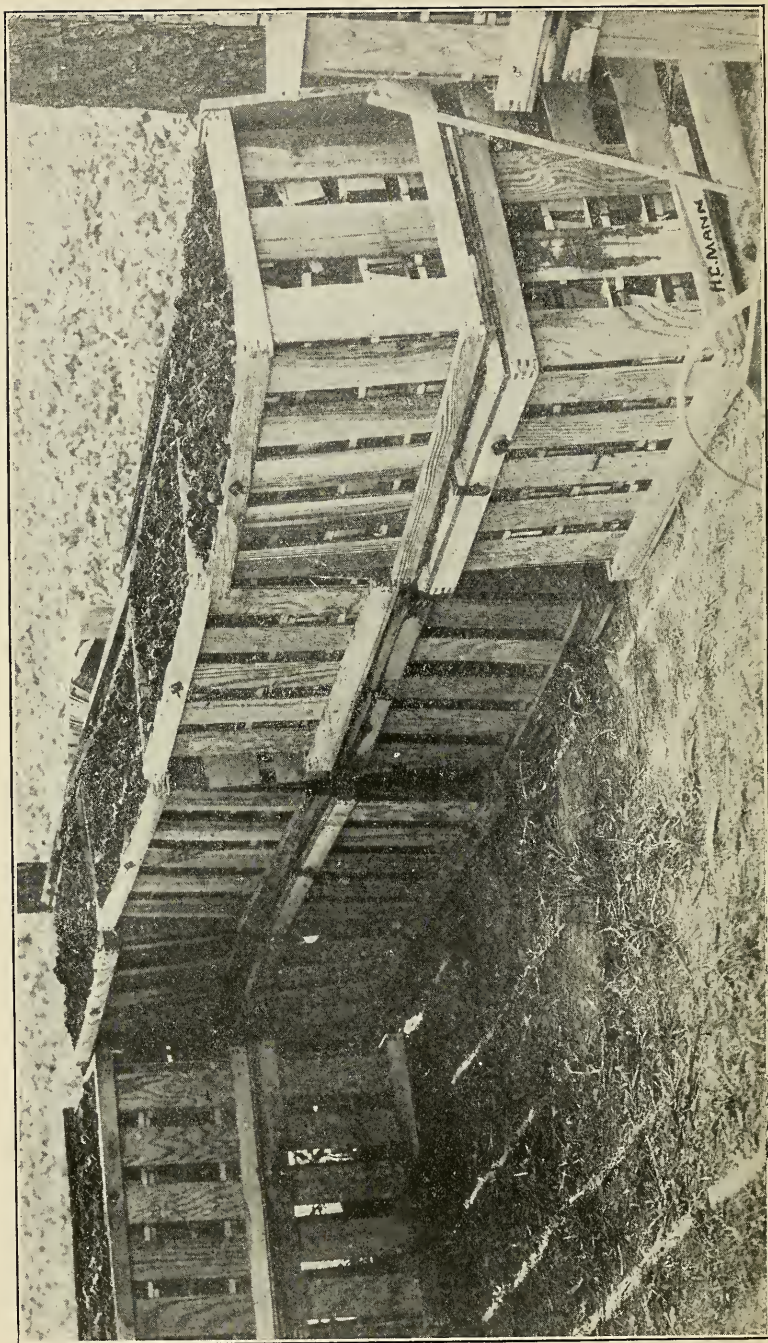
Lands have advanced in price in the past ten years about forty per cent., and near Yorktown about sixty per cent.

The surface is level, the soil varying from a light loam in the south to a clay in the north, and generally of a good quality.

Farm products are corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, etc. Considerable fruit of the various varieties is grown, and melons in great abundance. The York and other streams abound in the finest of oysters, and this is the leading money product of the county; also fish of every variety are in abundance. These and truck farming constitute the county's most profitable industries. Some portions of the county are very well adapted to stock raising, especially sheep.

The Chesapeake and Ohio railroad passes through the southwest border of the county, and a survey has been made for a railroad from Yorktown to Hampton, which, if built, will be a great benefit to the county.

Water courses are numerous. Besides Chesapeake bay, York, Poquo-



Berries of all kinds grow to perfection both in size and flavor in Virginia.

son and Black rivers, there are numerous navigable creeks, all of which afford excellent shipping facilities.

Population, census of 1910, 7,757.

Yorktown, the county seat, is located on York river near its mouth, thirty-three miles from Norfolk and seventy miles from Richmond. While a town of limited population and advantages, it possesses a historic interest second to none other in the confines of our great country, as having been the scene of the closing conflict for American independence, where, on October 19, 1781, the army of Cornwallis surrendered to the combined armies of America and France, which notable event was a century later commemorated by the erection by the government, near the spot, of an imposing monument, ninety-seven feet in height, adorned with patriotic devices and inscriptions, and pronounced by travelers to be the handsomest monument in the world. This county was also the scene of the first battle of the late war, fought at Big Bethel, as well as the last battle of the Revolution, fought at Yorktown.

"The Moore House," on Temple farm, lying in a peninsula formed by York river, Waverly creek and Mill Pond, one mile east of Yorktown, is another precious relic of our past history, noted as the place of capitulation of the army of Cornwallis to the armies of Washington, Lafayette and Rochambeau. The house is still occupied as a residence, and stands about fifty feet above York river, commanding a beautiful view of the Chesapeake bay, Yorktown monument and quaint old Yorktown. All along the York river are beautiful residential sites, breezy the year round, and overlooking the placid blue waters of the broad river.

Other towns in the county are Grafton and Poquoson, and the branches of the Peninsula Bank are located at these points, indicating the demands of a growing business in this section.



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All varieties of fruits and nuts grow in Virginia except the semi-tropical.

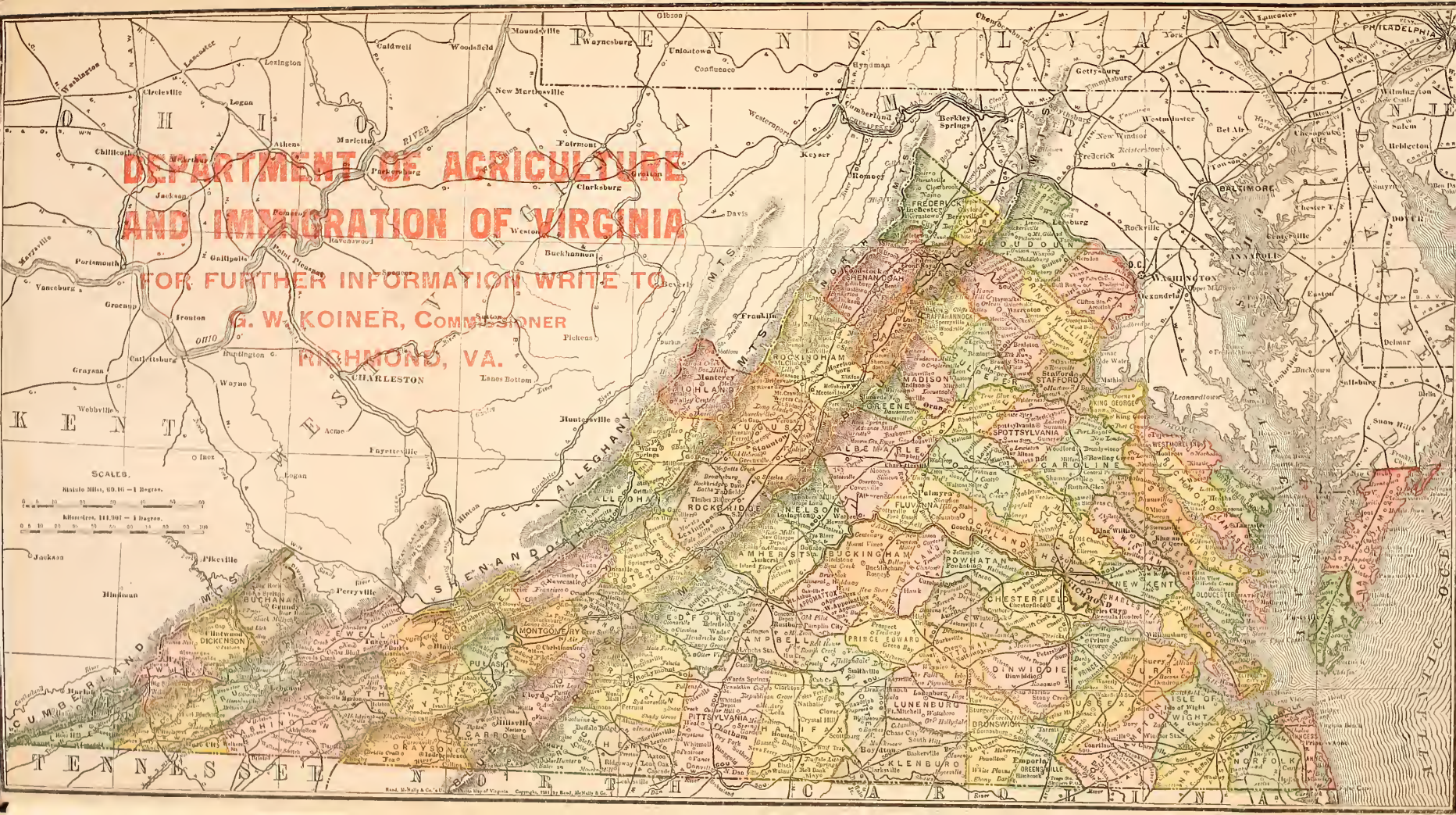


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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND IMMIGRATION OF VIRGINIA

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE TO
G. W. KOINER, COMMISSIONER
RICHMOND, VA.

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The home of one of Virginia's progressive farmers, the lay of whose song is—

"Here is land that's smooth and level,
Where the grain and grasses grow;
Where a man can make a living
If you give him half a show.

"And here's land that's gently rolling,
That no other State can beat;
That will grow compeas or clover,
Potatoes, tobacco, corn or wheat.

"There is nowhere a land so fair—
So full of song, so free of care,
As in Virginia."

"And here's land that's not so level,
Where all kinds of fruits are grown
They have captured all the prizes
Wherever they've been shown.

"And here's land that's good for grazing,
But, perhaps, you'll find some rocks;
It is just the place to pasture
The many herds and flocks.

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